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THE BEGINNINGS  
OF FREEMASONRY

IN

NORTH CAROLINA  
AND TENNESSEE



BY

MARSHALL DeLANCEY HAYWOOD



**GOVERNOR SAMUEL JOHNSTON,  
Grand Master of the Masonic Grand Lodge of North Carolina,  
at its Reorganization in 1787.**

©

THE

# Beginnings of Freemasonry

IN

## North Carolina and Tennessee

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BY

**MARSHALL DELANCEY HAYWOOD,**

Historian of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, and Representative of the Grand Lodge  
of Maryland, near the same.

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*"Being persuaded that a just application of the principles on which the Masonic  
fraternity is founded must be promotive of private virtue and public prosperity, I  
shall always be happy to advance the interests of the Society and be considered by  
them a deserving Brother."*—GEORGE WASHINGTON, August 16, 1790.

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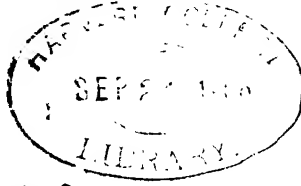
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TO THE  
WORSHIPFUL MASTER AND BRETHREN  
OF  
WILLIAM G. HILL LODGE,  
No. 218,  
IN THE CITY OF RALEIGH,  
THESE PAGES ARE  
DEDICATED.

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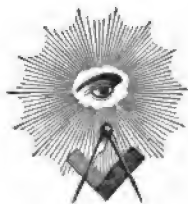
## BEGINNINGS OF FREEMASONRY IN NORTH CAROLINA.

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Among all the many thousands of ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS whose Lodges are now scattered throughout the Grand Jurisdiction of North Carolina, very few there are who possess a knowledge of the history of their Order in this State. Little knows the average Mason of his Craft's transmission from England to America, of its growth in Colonial days, how great soldiers and statesmen of Revolutionary times united with worthy brethren in humbler spheres of life and "transmitted unimpaired the most excellent tenets of our institution," how a sturdy race of pioneers carried the Great Lights of Masonry across mountain ranges into Tennessee and there formed another Grand Lodge which in time was to send its chartered off-shoots throughout newer States where the organization still flourishes, and what were the earlier causes in general of the high esteem in which Masonry has ever been held in all enlightened communities—all this, I say, is a closed book to the average Craftsman in North Carolina. As unfortunate, almost, as this ignorance itself is the fact that there are few accessible sources from which information may be obtained as to our State's earlier Masonic history. The Order has printed little. It has pursued the noiseless tenor of its way, never swelling its ranks by seeking new members, but welcoming good men of all religious creeds who come of their own accord and are willing to conform to its ancient usages. Like charity, it suffereth long and is kind, envieth not, vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth.

In these pages I purpose to record in a brief way, as best I can, some facts which seem to me worthy of remembrance in connection with the history of Masonry in North Carolina

and Tennessee, also having a few words to say of some of our eminent Brethren from whose hands have long since dropped the working-tools of life.



### SUBORDINATE LODGES OF COLONIAL TIMES IN NORTH CAROLINA.

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The history of Freemasonry in the British Colonies of North America (now the United States) may be traced back to a very early period, and prior to 1735 the Craft was actively at work in North Carolina. In the year just mentioned, enough Masons had assembled in the Cape Fear settlement (near the site of the present city of Wilmington) to form a Lodge. This was SOLOMON LODGE, chartered by Thomas Thynne, second Viscount Weymouth, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England. In the *History of Freemasonry and Concordant Orders* it is stated that application was made for charters for Solomon Lodge at Cape Fear, and Solomon Lodge at Charleston, in South Carolina, at the same time. Solomon Lodge at Cape Fear was duly entered on the roll of the Grand Lodge in England; but, by some oversight, Solomon Lodge at Charleston was omitted. Some years later, however, this injustice to the Lodge in South Carolina was remedied, and it was properly enrolled, with precedence from 1735. It is believed by some that the present Saint John's Lodge at Wilmington is an outgrowth of Solomon Lodge at Cape Fear. If this be true, it is probable that Solomon Lodge ceased to exist, under that name, in 1754,



when Saint John's Lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of England.



On the roll of the Grand Lodge of England for 1762 it is stated that the present SAINT JOHN'S LODGE, now No. 1, of Wilmington, had been chartered in 1755. A year earlier, however, seems to have been the date of its charter, as that instrument was paid for on the 27th of June, 1754. Its English number was then 213. This number was changed to 158 in 1770, to 126 in 1780, 127 in 1781, and 114 in 1792. The last date was after it was a part of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina and no longer acknowledged the Masonic jurisdiction of England. By chapter 58 of the Laws of North Carolina for 1796 it was created a corporate body. Of this Lodge Cornelius Harnett was Worshipful Master for quite a number of years in Colonial times. A sketch of Brother Harnett, who afterwards became Deputy Grand Master, will be given later on in this work. In connection with the early history of Saint John's Lodge, I am indebted to Past Master William B. McKoy, of Wilmington Lodge, No. 319, for an interesting extract from the court records of New Hanover County, it being an item in the will of Joshua Toomer, dated August 22, 1761: "To my Brethren the Freemasons—I shall be glad if they will do me the last honour of attending my corpse with their jewels and aprons."



Prior to the Revolution, there were other Lodges in North Carolina, in the vicinity of Wilmington, and the origin of these may be traced to the part borne in the French and Indian War by the North Carolina soldiers who were members of Military Lodges outside the Colony. On May 13, 1756, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts chartered an Army

Lodge in the forces then operating in the North against the fortress of Crown Point; another Lodge, in the Twenty-eighth Regiment of Foot, at Louisburg, Nova Scotia, was formed by the same authority on the 13th of November, 1758; and again, January 18, 1759, a charter for a Lodge was also issued to other troops operating against Canada. In the Crown Point campaign there was a company of North Carolina volunteers whose members had re-enlisted after having been mustered out at the end of the Braddock expedition against Fort DuQuesne. The commanding officer of this North Carolina company was Caleb Granger, of New Hanover County, who had been Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment of Colonel James Innes, but now was only a Captain in this band of volunteers, as the small number which re-enlisted did not warrant so high a rank as he had formerly held. Granger was made a Mason during his campaign in the North; and, upon his return home, he settled on his father's estate below Wilmington. There a Lodge was formed, but it has so long ceased to work that there is nothing to show from whence came its charter. Even its name is not a matter of record, though tradition states that it was called HANOVER LODGE. I am inclined to think (though it is altogether surmise on my part) that this Lodge received its charter from Provincial Grand Master John Hammerton, at Charleston, South Carolina, to whose personal history we shall refer later on. From the number of Masons residing in the vicinity of Hanover Lodge, the locality came to be known as Masonboro, and is so called to this day.



In the town of Halifax, North Carolina, is ROYAL WHITE HART LODGE, now No. 2, which ranks next to Saint John's Lodge at Wilmington among the present Lodges of the State. This was chartered on August 21, 1767, by the Right Wor-

shipful John Salter,\* Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England. Of Masonry in Halifax County it appears from the old manuscript records now kept there that as early as November 1, 1764, a Lodge had been organized at Marsh Swamp by authority from Cornelius Harnett, the "Worshipful Grand Master" of Saint John's Lodge at Wilmington. The title here employed to designate Brother Harnett's station is somewhat different from that now ascribed to the presiding officer of a Lodge. What authority, if any, the Master of one subordinate Lodge then had for chartering another Lodge I do not know. It could not be done now. At a later period Brother Harnett probably had such power, in certain contingencies, when he became Deputy Provincial Grand Master under Provincial Grand Master Joseph Montfort. On the 18th of April, 1765, first appears the name of Royal White Hart Lodge, when a meeting was held at the house of Daniel Lovel. The officers, with their titles slightly differing from those now employed, are given as follows: Frederick Schulzer, Grand Master; Daniel Lovel, Deputy Master; William Martin, Secretary; Robert Goodloe, Senior Warden; James Mathews, Junior Warden; William Wilson, Senior Stuart, and John Geddy, Junior Stuart. The other brethren were David Stokes, Joseph Long, Henry Dowse, Joseph Montfort, and Peter Thompson. This Lodge, holding its meetings at the houses of different members, continued to work and make Masons under its old organization until May 20, 1768. On the date last mentioned it was reorganized under the charter, heretofore mentioned, from Deputy Grand Master Salter, dated August 21, 1767. This charter constituted Joseph Montfort, Master; Joseph Long,

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\* In 1762 this Colonel John Salter was appointed Senior Grand Warden, and in 1763 Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, by Washington Shirley, fifth Earl of Ferrers, then Grand Master of England, who was a first cousin of Governor William Tryon, of North Carolina. Salter served under several of the successors of Lord Ferrers till 1767, when his name disappears from the roll of officers of the Grand Lodge in England.

Senior Warden, and Matthew Brown, Junior Warden. The number of Royal White Hart Lodge, as recorded on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England prior to the Revolution, was at first 403. This number was afterwards changed several times as follows: to 338 in 1770, 264 in 1780, 265 in 1781, and 223 in 1792—the last change being after it had disclaimed Masonic allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, and was a part of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. At its session of 1802, the State Legislature, by Chapter 104 of its enactments, incorporated Royal White Hart Lodge under the laws of North Carolina.

For much of this information concerning Royal White Hart Lodge I am indebted to a letter written in 1893 by Brother James M. Grizzard, then its Worshipful Master, to the present Chief Justice of our Supreme Court, the Honorable Walter Clark, who was once a member of Royal White Hart Lodge and now belongs to Hiram Lodge, No. 40, at Raleigh. The distinguished Brother last named has kindly placed the letter at my disposal.



In the records of a Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, held at the Royal Exchange in Boston on October 24, 1766, we find mention of a Lodge in North Carolina called THE FIRST LODGE IN PITT COUNTY. This was at a place known as Crown Point. Thomas Cooper, a merchant residing in Pitt County, was Worshipful Master of this Lodge, which was chartered by the Right Worshipful Jeremy Gridley, of Massachusetts. Brother Gridley was Provincial Grand Master with jurisdiction over any parts of North America where no other Grand Lodge existed. On the Feast of Saint John the Baptist, June 24, 1767, the Lodge in Pitt County sent to the Grand Lodge at Boston the following list of officers and other members: Thomas Cooper,

Master; Peter Blin and John Simpson, Wardens; Richard Evans, Treasurer; James Hall, Secretary; Thomas Hardy and James Hill, Stewards, *pro tempore*; Richard Richardson, Tiler; and the following members: William Pratt, George Miller, John Leslie, Nathaniel Blin, Peter Richardson, James Glasgow, Robert Newell, Peter Johnson, William Brown, Bolen Hall, John Barber, William Kelly, Robert Bignall, George Evans, Lenington Lockhart, William McClellan, and Thomas Hall.

At a Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, held in Boston at the Bunch of Grapes Tavern, October 23, 1767, the Right Worshipful Henry Price, Past Provincial Grand Master, took the chair as successor to Grand Master Gridley, who had recently died. At this meeting Acting Grand Master Price confirmed, until the end of the year, all existing appointments, and it was then that he also commissioned, as Deputy Provincial Grand Master for North Carolina, Thomas Cooper, Worshipful Master of the Lodge in Pitt County. A copy of this commission will be set forth, as will also what is known of Brother Cooper, later on in this work.



SAINT JOHN'S LODGE, of New Bern, is now No. 3 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. The charter of this Lodge (which is still preserved) is dated January 10, 1772. It was issued by the Right Worshipful Joseph Montfort, Provincial Grand Master, and countersigned by James Milner, Deputy Grand Master, and William Brimage, Grand Secretary. After the downfall of the royal government in North Carolina, the meetings of this Lodge were for a while held in the abandoned Tryon Palace, which had been built in Colonial times as a residence for the Governors of the Province. Among the many crimes charged against the dark, dangerous and unscrupulous Masons of those old days was

the burning of this building in 1798, when they learned that the State intended to sell it; though, as a matter of fact, the conflagration was caused by an old negro woman with a light-wood torch hunting for eggs among the rubbish in its basement. The Worshipful Master of Saint John's Lodge, when it was first organized, was the Honorable Martin Howard, Chief Justice of the Province of North Carolina. The Lodge was incorporated by Chapter 51 of the Laws of 1797. By Chapter 106 of the Laws of 1802 (four years after the destruction of the Palace) it was authorized to raise by lottery money wherewith to build a new Lodge Hall.



The next Lodge to claim our attention is what was first known as KINSTON LODGE, and later as SAINT JOHN'S LODGE, No. 4, of Kinston. In 1787, when the Grand Lodge was reorganized, it was called Kinston Lodge. A few years later, when the Grand Lodge settled the precedence of its subordinate Lodges, it is recorded as Saint John's Lodge, No. 4, ranking next after Saint John's Lodge, of New Bern. As the New Bern Lodge was chartered January 10, 1772, Saint John's Lodge of Kinston was probably chartered in the same year. Saint John's Lodge, No. 4, of Kinston, was dissolved in December, 1806. It was re-chartered November 30, 1827, as Saint John's Lodge, No. 96. At a meeting of the Grand Lodge in December, 1837, Kinston Lodge, in that town, was chartered with the same number, 96. Of Kinston Lodge, Brother James Banks, in his manuscript history of Freemasonry in North Carolina, says it resumed its former name of Saint John's at a later period. In the Grand Lodge Proceedings for 1902 I find Saint John's Lodge recorded as No. 96, and it is recorded as No. 4 in the Proceedings for 1904, so it has only recently gotten back to the original numerical station of the old Saint John's Lodge, No. 4. It

has been twice incorporated by act of the Legislature—as Saint John's, No. 4, by Chapter 42 of the Laws of 1799, and as Saint John's, No. 96, by Chapter 59 of the Laws of 1827. Governor Richard Caswell, who was second to hold the office of Grand Master of North Carolina after the reorganization of the Grand Lodge, was a member of the Lodge at Kinston. When a monument was erected to Governor Caswell many years later at Kinston, and the corner-stone was laid by the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master who conducted the ceremonies was the Most Worshipful Henry F. Grainger, also of Kinston.



At Windsor, in the county of Bertie, was ROYAL EDWIN LODGE, No. 5. As to this Lodge we find in the manuscript history of Freemasonry, by Banks, two statements which are hard to reconcile. Brother Banks first says it was dissolved in December, 1803. On a later page, when referring to a meeting of the Grand Lodge in December, 1822, he also states: "Royal Edwin Lodge, No. 5, Windsor, after having held her name on the calendar and an honorable position in the Grand Lodge for thirty-four years, was, on motion, dissolved." CHARITY LODGE, at Windsor, now has the number of Royal Edwin, No. 5, having been chartered less than a year after the old Lodge became dormant in 1822. Many members of Royal Edwin were doubtless among the organizers of Charity Lodge, and the two are virtually one and the same. Of Charity Lodge, Banks says, referring to the Grand Lodge meeting in December, 1825: "The Grand Lodge had granted charters to Sharon Lodge, Greenville, and Charity Lodge, Windsor, and inadvertently numbered each 78. Neither seemed willing to relinquish the honor of precedence, and the matter was referred to a committee, of which Brother R. D. Spaight was chairman, on the coming in of whose

report it was resolved that both Lodges be numbered on the calendar as 78. Since then Charity Lodge, Windsor, has been numbered 79." As above stated, Charity Lodge is at present No. 5 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. It was made a corporate body by Chapter 139 of the Laws of 1823.



In Hertford County, at Winton, was ROYAL WILLIAM LODGE, No. 6, which went out of existence in November, 1799, and was probably never revived, as it is not now on the rolls of the Grand Lodge. Its Worshipful Master, and one of its representatives at the reorganization of the Grand Lodge in 1787, was Lieutenant-Colonel Hardy Murfree, one of the most noted officers of the Continental Line in the War for Independence, and an original member of the Society of the Cincinnati. After being a member of Royal William, Brother Murfree joined a new Lodge, with a name probably more to his liking, it being American George Lodge, No. 17, of Murfreesborough, which was chartered by the Grand Lodge, and which was incorporated (after Murfree had left the State) by Chapter 69 of the Acts of Assembly for 1812. Brother Murfree removed to Tennessee in 1807. He was a faithful Craftsman up to the time of his death, which occurred near Franklin, Tennessee, on April 6, 1809. Several months thereafter, on July 9th, a public ceremony, with Masonic rites, was held at his grave. The town of Murfreesborough, Tennessee, is named in his honor, but Murfreesborough, North Carolina, was named for his father. One of the colleagues of Hardy Murfree from Royal William Lodge, when the Grand Lodge was reorganized, was William Person Little, afterwards a member of Hiram Lodge, No. 24, of Williamsborough, in Granville County. Like Murfree, Brother Little has a municipal namesake, the town of Littleton, in



Halifax County being named for him—or rather for a country-seat called Littleton which he built.



On the 8th of November, 1775, occurred the first meeting of UNANIMITY LODGE, now No. 7, of Edenton. Its Colonial number is not known, though its charter was one of those granted by Provincial Grand Master Montfort. This Lodge became dormant in November, 1799, and was later revived under a different number. Finally it took back its original number, and is now actively at work. By Chapter 126 of the Laws of 1809, it was incorporated as Unanimity Lodge, No. 54, of Edenton. This Lodge has for more than a hundred years held its meetings in the old Colonial Court House of Chowan County.



UNION LODGE, No. 8, of Fayetteville, had its name changed shortly after the Revolution (November 17, 1788) to PHOENIX LODGE, No. 8, and still works under that designation. Some suppose this Lodge to be of Scotch origin, but there is no proof whatever to sustain that contention. Its origin is unknown, but its legality was recognized at the reorganization of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina in 1787—in fact, it was this Lodge which set the movement on foot to reorganize the Grand Lodge. Phoenix Lodge was created a corporation by Chapter 102 of the Laws of 1798.



OLD CONE LODGE, No. 9, was at Salisbury, and has long since passed out of existence. Among its members in the period just following the Revolution were Deputy Grand Master Montfort Stokes (later Governor of North Carolina), Colonel John Armstrong, Colonel Adlai Osborne, William Lee Alexander, and others.



We learn from an entry on the proceedings at the time of the reorganization of the Grand Lodge in 1787 that a memorial was received from DORNOCK LODGE, No. 5, of Warren County, asking for recognition. In response to this, its two representatives, Brothers John Macon and Henry Hill were welcomed to the floor, but were not given the privilege of voting in the election of Grand Lodge Officers, etc., Dornock Lodge not being held to be legally constituted. Of this Lodge later mention will be made. I think it was chartered during the Revolution by Deputy Grand Master Harnett after the death of Grand Master Montfort had nullified his authority—hence the irregularity of its origin.



Warren County was a part of the old Colonial county of Bute, and there was also a Lodge in that section called BLANDFORD-BUTE LODGE, or BLANDFORD LODGE, OF BUTE (I am uncertain which), and mention of this Lodge will also be made later on, in the account of the reorganization of the Grand Lodge.



During the Revolution the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania issued a warrant (No. 20) for the establishment of an Army

Lodge among the North Carolina troops, but this warrant was later revoked, and nothing is known of the Lodge in question.



This ends the list of Colonial and Revolutionary Lodges. The first Lodge chartered by the reorganized Grand Lodge of North Carolina after the Revolution was JOHNSTON-CASWELL LODGE, No. 10, of Warrenton. This Lodge, and those of later date, it is not my purpose to discuss, but I shall now revert to the Colonial period, giving some account of the old Provincial Grand Lodge of North Carolina, the joint Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee after the Revolution, and also add some biographical sketches of the Grand Lodge Officers who had jurisdiction over North Carolina prior to the War for Independence.

Before closing my discussion of the subordinate Lodges named above, I may add that it is my opinion that every one chartered between 1771 and 1776 was derived from Provincial Grand Master Joseph Montfort. As that officer lived within the Province of North Carolina I do not see how it could ever become necessary for a Lodge to go to European jurisdictions for authority to work.



## EARLY HISTORY OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

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Though Provincial Grand Master John Hammerton, of South Carolina, is supposed to have had Masonic jurisdiction over the Colony of North Carolina as early as 1736, and Deputy Provincial Grand Master Thomas Cooper (holding office by authority of the Grand Lodge at Boston) lived in the Colony in 1767, there seems to have been no separate and distinct Grand Lodge of North Carolina before 1771, when the Duke of Beaufort, Grand Master of England, made Joseph Montfort, of Halifax, North Carolina, Provincial Grand Master of the Province, with jurisdiction extending over the whole Continent of North America where no other Grand Lodge had jurisdiction. Montfort at first appointed James Milner to be Deputy Provincial Grand Master; and, after Milner's death, Cornelius Harnett succeeded him as Deputy Grand Master. William Brimage was Grand Secretary, his term probably extending from the first foundation of the Grand Lodge in 1771 till the death of Provincial Grand Master Montfort in 1776. Montfort's death nullified all the offices held under him. Of Hammerton, Cooper, Montfort, Milner, Harnett, and Brimage separate sketches will be found in the present work.

Thinking it may be of interest to the Craft in our day, a copy of the commission or deputation to Thomas Cooper is here inserted, the same being taken from the records of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and first printed in the North Carolina Grand Lodge Proceedings for 1896.

(Seal.) HENRY PRICE, G. M.

TO ALL AND EVERY, OUR RIGHT WORSHIPFUL AND LOVING BRETHREN (FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS), NOW RESIDING OR THAT MAY HEREAFTER RESIDE IN THE PROVINCE OF NORTH CAROLINA: WE, HENRY PRICE, ESQRE., GRAND MAS-

TER OF THE ANCIENT AND HONOURABLE SOCIETY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ALL SUCH PLACES IN NORTH AMERICA WHERE NO OTHER GRAND MASTER IS APPOINTED, SEND GREETING:

WHEREAS, Our Right Worshipful and Loving Brother, Mr. Thomas Cooper, of Pitt County, in the Province aforesaid, Merchant, obtain'd of the late Right Worshipful Jeremy Gridley, Esqre., Grand Master of Masons in North America, our Most Worthy Predecessor, a Deputation to be Master of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in Pitt county aforesaid; and whereas our said Brother Cooper did (since he obtain'd the said Deputation) represent to our said Predecessor that by reason of the great distance of some of the Brethren's abode from the place of their usual Assembling in Pitt county aforesaid, their Attendance on Lodges was very inconvenient and troublesome to those members, and the business of Masonry could not be carried on with that Regularity and Certainty that it otherwise would,

For the remedy of these inconveniences, Now therefore Know ye, That by Virtue of the Power and Authority committed to us by the Right Honourable and Right Worshipful Anthony, Lord Viscount Montague, Grand Master of Masons, Do hereby nominate, Appoint and Authorize, our said Right Worshipful Brother, Thomas Cooper, to be our Deputy Grand Master within the Province of North Carolina aforesaid, and do empower him to congregate all the Brethren that at present reside (or may hereafter reside) in said Province, into one or more Lodges, as he may think fit, and in such place or places within the same as shall most redound to the general benefit of Masonry: He taking special care that Masters, Wardens and all other proper Officers to a Lodge appertaining, be duly chosen at their next Meeting preceding the Feasts of St. John the Baptist, or St. John the Evangelist, or both, as shall be most convenient, and so on annually. Also that no person be admitted into any Lodge within this Deputation at any time, but regular made Ma-

sons. And that all and every the regulations contained in the Printed Book of Constitutions (except so far as they have been altered by the Grand Lodge in London) be kept and observed, with such other instructions as may be transmitted by us or our Successors. That an Account in writing be annually sent to us, our Successors or our Deputys, of the Names of the Members of the Lodge or Lodges, and their place of abode, with the days and places of their meeting, with any other Things that may be for the Benefit of Masonry in those Parts; and that the Feasts of St. John the Baptist, or St. John the Evangelist, be kept yearly, and Dine together on those Days or as near them as may be. That for each Lodge constituted by him, he is to Remit to the Grand Secretary in this place, three guineas and one half, two of which is for Registering them here. Lastly, a Charitable Fund must be established for the relief of Poor distress'd Brothers in those Parts, in such manner as is practiced elsewhere by Regular Lodges.

GIVEN UNDER OUR HAND AND THE SEAL OF MASONRY AT BOSTON, IN NEW ENGLAND, THE THIRTIETH DAY OF DECEMBER, ANNO DOMINI, ONE THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY SEVEN; AND OF MASONRY, FIVE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY SEVEN. WITNESS THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER AND GRAND WARDENS WHOSE NAMES ARE HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED.

JOHN ROWE, D. G. M.

ARCHIBALD MCNEILL, S. G. W.

JOHN CUTLER, J. G. W.

BY THE GRAND MASTER'S COMMAND:

ABR'M SAVAGE, G. Sec'ry.

The following is a copy made from the original commission issued by Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, constituting and appointing Joseph Montfort Provincial Grand Master of and for America. The original of this document now hangs in the Grand Lodge Hall of North Carolina at Raleigh:

(Seal.) BEAUFORT, G. M.

TO ALL AND EVERY OUR RIGHT WORSHIPFUL, WORSHIPFUL, AND LOVING BRETHREN. WE, HENRY SOMERSET, DUKE OF BEAUFORT, MARQUIS & EARL OF WORCESTER, EARL OF GLAMORGAN, VISCOUNT GROSMONT, BARON HERBERT, LORD OF RAGLAND, CHEPSTOW & GOWER, BARON BEAUFORT OF CALDECOT CASTLE, GRAND MASTER OF THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONOURABLE SOCIETY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, GREETING:

KNOW YE that WE, of the great Trust and Confidence reposed in our Right Worshipful and well beloved Brother, JOSEPH MONTFORT, ESQUIRE, of Halifax, in the PROVINCE OF NORTH CAROLINA, in AMERICA, Do hereby Constitute and Appoint him the said JOSEPH MONTFORT, PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER of and for AMERICA, with full power and Authority in due form to make Masons & Constitute and Regulate Lodges, as Occasion may Require. And also to Do and Execute all and every such other Acts and things appertaining to said Office as usually have been and ought to be done and executed by Other Provincial Grand Masters, he the said JOSEPH MONTFORT taking special care that all and every the Members of every Lodge he shall Constitute have been Regularly made Masons and that they do observe, perform, and keep all and every the Rules, Orders and Regulations contained in the Book of Constitutions (Except such as have been or may be Repealed at any Quarterly Communication or other General Meeting) together also with all such other Rules, Orders, Regulations, and Instructions, as shall from time to time be transmitted by Us, or by the Honourable CHARLES DILLON, our Deputy or by any of our Successors, Grand Masters or their Deputys for the time being. AND we hereby Will and Require you our said PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER to cause four Quarterly Communications to be held Yearly, one whereof to be upon or as near the feast Day of SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST as conveniently may be, and that you promote on those and all other occasions whatever may

be for the honour and Advantage of Masonry and the Benefit of the Grand Charity, and that You yearly send to us or our Successors, Grand Masters, an Account in Writing of the proceedings therein and also of what Lodges you Constitute and when and where held with a list of the Members thereof & copies of all such Rules, Orders & Regulations as shall be made for the good Government of the same, with whatever else you shall do by Virtue of these Presents. And that you at the same time remit to the Treasurer of the Society for the time being at London, Three Pounds, Three Shillings sterling for every Lodge you shall Constitute, for the use of the Grand Charity and other necessary purposes.

GIVEN AT LONDON UNDER OUR HAND & SEAL OF MASONRY  
THIS 14TH DAY OF JANUARY, A. L. 5771, A. D. 1771.

BY THE GRAND MASTER'S COMMAND:

CHAS. DILLON, D. G. M.

WITNESS:

JAS. HESELTINE, G. S.

The penmanship of the above commission is a work of art, and the document is also handsomely embellished with Masonic emblems—above it being the Square, Level and Twenty-four inch Gauge, while below are represented the Great Lights of Masonry.

After its organization in 1771, the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Carolina sometimes met at the town of Halifax, sometimes at New Bern, and sometimes at Edenton. Then the turmoil of war put an end to Grand Lodge work, and it was not until 1786, *Anno Lucis* 5786, that steps toward a revival took place. Concerning this revival we quote the language of an address in a Masonic work, *Ahiman Rezon and Masonic Ritual*, published at New Bern, North Carolina, in 1805. The address in question was delivered by François Xavier Martin, who was a Masonic historian—as well as a historian of two States, North Carolina and



Louisiana—of which latter he became Chief Justice after his removal thereto. In the Masonic address by Brother Martin, above alluded to, he says: "The Great Architect of the Universe having permitted a dissolution of the political bands which united North Carolina to Great Britain, propriety seemed to point out that the Lodges of this State should not remain longer under any allegiance to, or dependence on, the Grand Lodge or Grand Master of that Kingdom. In 5786 the Union Lodge, of Fayetteville, being advised thereto by a number of Visiting Brothers from the different parts of the State, proposed that a Convention of all the regular constituted Lodges of North Carolina should be held at Fayetteville, on the 24th of June, 5787, to take under consideration the propriety of declaring by a solemn act the independence of the Lodges of North Carolina, and to appoint a State Grand Master and other Grand Officers. The great distance to, and small intercourse between, the different parts of this extensive State having prevented a sufficient number of delegates from attending, the Convention adjourned to the town of Tarborough, on the 27th of December following, when the [Masonic] declaration of independence took place, and a form of government was adopted. The Most Worshipful Samuel Johnston having been appointed Grand Master, and the Right Worshipful Richard Caswell (then Governor of this State) Deputy Grand Master, the first Grand Lodge of North Carolina was held on the following day."

In the preliminary meeting, or Convention, at Tarborough, Brother John Mare, of Unanimity Lodge at Edenton, was chosen to preside, and Brother Benjamin Manchester, of St. John's Lodge at New Bern, acted as Secretary. When Governor Samuel Johnston was elected Most Worshipful Grand Master, he was duly installed by Brother Mare, whose charge to the distinguished statesman who had been chosen to preside in the East is still preserved.\* In addition to Grand

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\*Ahiman Rezon and Masonic Ritual of North Carolina (1805) part II, page 6.

Master Johnston and Deputy Grand Master Caswell were other Grand Officers as follows: The Right Worshipful Richard Ellis, Senior Grand Warden; the Right Worshipful Michael Payne, Junior Grand Warden; the Right Worshipful Abner Neale, Grand Treasurer; and the Right Worshipful James Glasgow, Grand Secretary.

As it will no doubt be of interest to the Craft in this Year of Light 5906 to know the *personnel* of the Convention at Tarborough, with the Lodge to which each Brother belonged, we here give the list in full—not in the order of their seniority, but as they were entered on the rolls of the meeting:

UNANIMITY LODGE, of Edenton: John Mare and Stephen Cabarrus.

SAINT JOHN'S LODGE, No. 2, of New Bern: Benjamin Manchester and Abner Neale.

ROYAL EDWIN LODGE, No. 4, of Windsor: John Johnston, Andrew Oliver, and Silas William Arnett.

ROYAL WHITE HART LODGE, No. 403, of Halifax: William Muir, Samuel MacDougall, and John Geddy.

ROYAL WILLIAM LODGE, No. 8, of Winton: Hardy Murfree, Patrick Garvey, and William Person Little.

UNION LODGE (afterwards PHOENIX LODGE), of Fayetteville: James Porterfield.

BLANDFORD (or BLANDFORD-BUTE LODGE), of Warrenton: Edward Jones and William Johnson.

OLD CONE LODGE, of Salisbury: John Armstrong.

KINSTON LODGE, No. 3, of Kinston: Richard Caswell, James Glasgow, and William Randall.

DORNOCK LODGE, No. 5, of Warren County: John Macon and Henry Hill.

As already noted, Dornock Lodge was not considered to be legally constituted, and hence was not recognized in its corporate capacity, though Brothers Macon and Hill were adjudged to be lawfully made members of the fraternity; and, as such, were given the privileges of the floor both in the Convention and in the Grand Lodge organization which was effected by the Convention.

The above "Masonic ancestors" were a set of men from whom any organization should feel a pride in tracing its descent. Nearly all of them had gained distinction in the councils or on fields of battle during the then recent War of the Revolution. Caswell was the first Governor of the independent State of North Carolina, was re-elected Governor after a lapse of several years, and Johnston succeeded him in the Executive Chair at the close of his second term. Lieutenant-Colonel Hardy Murfree, as we have already noted, was a splendid soldier. He had led his North Carolina battalion on many fields of blood, among its other desperate fights being the storming of Stony Point by General Wayne. Stephen Cabarrus, of French nativity and famed as a legislator, was Speaker of the House of Commons of North Carolina, and has a county named in his honor. John Johnston (brother of Governor Samuel Johnston, Grand Master) had been on the Committee of Safety of the Edenton District, and also sat in the two Congresses held at Halifax in 1776. Colonel John Geddy, a fighting officer of militia, had served in the first independent Congress of North Carolina at New Bern, in April, 1774. William Person Little, barely of age when the Grand Lodge was organized, afterwards became State Senator, and the town of Littleton took its name from his later home in Halifax County. Another Mason in the above Grand Lodge was Lieutenant-Colonel John Armstrong, of the Continental Line, who had been Deputy Adjutant General in the Southern Army under Gates. Nor should we fail to record in this connection, the name of Captain John Macon, a veteran of the Seventh North Carolina Continental Regiment, who was also prominent as a legislator. Then there were other brethren of scarcely less note, as shown by the roll of subordinate Lodges above set forth.

At its session in New Bern on June 25, 1791, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina settled finally the much disputed question of the precedence of its original subordinate Lodges as follows:

No. 1, SAINT JOHN'S LODGE, of Wilmington.

No. 2, ROYAL WHITE HART LODGE, of Halifax.

No. 3, SAINT JOHN'S LODGE, of New Bern.

No. 4, SAINT JOHN'S LODGE, or KINSTON LODGE, of Kinston.

No. 5, ROYAL EDWIN LODGE, now CHARITY LODGE, of Windsor.

No. 6, ROYAL WILLIAM LODGE, of Winton.

No. 7, UNANIMITY LODGE, of Edenton.

No. 8, PHOENIX LODGE, formerly UNION LODGE, of Fayetteville.

No. 9, OLD CONE LODGE, of Salisbury.

The tenth on the roll, JOHNSTON-CASWELL LODGE, of Warrenton, was the first which came into existence after the Revolution, and was given its name as a compliment to the first two Most Worshipful Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina as an independent body, Governors Samuel Johnston and Richard Caswell. Past Master A. B. Andrews, Jr., of William G. Hill Lodge, No. 218, at Raleigh, who has made an investigation of the question, has a theory that the two old Colonial or Revolutionary Lodges in Warren County, BLANDFORD OR BLANDFORD-BUTE LODGE and DORNOCK LODGE surrendered their charters immediately after the reorganization of the Grand Lodge and merged into Johnston-Caswell Lodge. Warren County is a part of the old Colonial county of Bute, and it seems uncertain whether one of these old Lodges was simply called Blandford of Bute, or Blandford-Bute. All of the original Lodges, above enumerated, have been discussed at more length at a former place in the present work. As to the numbers they held before the Revolution—St. John's (New Bern), No. 2; Royal White Hart, No. 403; Royal William, No. 8; Royal Edwin, No. 4; Kinston, No. 3; and Dornock, No. 5—these, except the English number, 403, of Royal White Hart, are probably the numbers by which they were recorded on the roll of the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Carolina before the Revo-

lution. The numbers of Unanimity, Royal Edwin, Union, Blandford-Bute, and Old Cone Lodges are not given on the first roll of the meeting in Tarborough (December, 1787), and Saint John's Lodge, of Wilmington, was not there represented.

The Lodges which received their charters from the Grand Lodge of England were claimed by that Grand Jurisdiction as late as 1813. At the latter time the claim (which had not been recognized in America for years) was relinquished. So it will be seen that our Mother Grand Lodge beyond the seas gave up her American children very reluctantly.

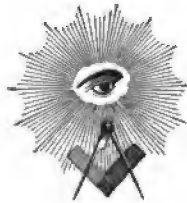
The statement has often been made that the Grand Lodge of North Carolina is descended from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. What gave rise to this theory (which had currency a hundred years ago as well as in our day) is utterly inexplicable so far as the investigations of the present writer are concerned.

In November, 1797, when General William Richardson Davie, afterwards Governor, was Grand Master, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina was incorporated by an act of the State Legislature (Chapter 10 of the Laws of 1797). In the Assembly which passed this act, the Speaker of the House of Commons was Benjamin Smith, afterwards Governor of the State and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge. The following is a copy of the act of incorporation:

"BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, AND IT IS HEREBY ENACTED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE SAME, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Wardens and members, who are at present, or in the future may be of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, be, and they are hereby constituted and declared to be a body corporate under the name and title of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina; and by such name they shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, and may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, acquire and transfer property, and pass all such by-laws and regulations as shall not be inconsistent with the

Constitution and Laws of this State or of the United States, anything to the contrary notwithstanding."

With this legislative enactment, by which the Grand Lodge was erected into a corporate body, we close the present division of this work, in order to take into consideration some other matters of Masonic interest in the epoch following the War of the Revolution.



## THE JOINT GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA AND TENNESSEE.

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Though this narrative has heretofore been confined to Masonry as it existed about the time of the Revolutionary War and prior thereto, it may be well now to add something concerning the origin of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, which was created by and out of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. From 1801 to 1813 (in which latter year the independent grand jurisdiction of Tennessee was formed), one Grand Lodge covered two States; and it was known as THE GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA AND TENNESSEE. At the time of the erection of the independent Grand Lodge of Tennessee, in 1813, there were within its jurisdiction seven subordinate Lodges duly chartered, and two under dispensation. Of course, all of the chartered Lodges had worked under dispensations before their charters were received. The full list of Tennessee subordinate Lodges was as follows:

SAINT TAMMANY LODGE, No. 29 of North Carolina, No. 1, of Tennessee, located at Nashville, chartered December 17, 1796, by Grand Master William Richardson Davie. Concerning this Lodge we quote from the manuscript history of

Freemasonry in North Carolina, by Brother James Banks, who, referring to the Grand Lodge meeting in 1796, says: "At this communication the Grand Lodge of North Carolina granted its first charter beyond the limits of the State. The charter was granted to brethren residing in the town of Nashville, Tennessee, by the name of 'Saint Tammany, No. 1, of Tennessee.'" The same manuscript gives a resolution passed by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina in 1800, changing the name of Saint Tammany to HARMONY LODGE, with the same numbers as above. Harmony Lodge was dissolved by the joint Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee in 1808. One of its members was Andrew Jackson, afterwards Grand Master of Tennessee, and later President of the United States.



TENNESSEE LODGE, No. 41 of North Carolina, No. 2 of Tennessee, located at Knoxville, chartered November 30, 1800, by Grand Master William Polk. This was called POLK LODGE while it was working under dispensation. Possibly the latter title was not retained because the Grand Master felt a delicacy in creating by charter a Lodge named for himself. The charter officers of this Lodge were: Governor John Sevier, Worshipful Master; James Grant, Senior Warden, and George Washington Campbell, Junior Warden.



GREENVILLE LODGE, No. 43 of North Carolina, No. 3 of Tennessee, located at Greenville, chartered December 11, 1801, by Grand Master William Polk. The charter officers of this Lodge were: George Washington Campbell, Worshipful Master; Jenkin Whiteside, Senior Warden, and John Rhea, Junior Warden.



NEWPORT LODGE, No. 50 of North Carolina, No. 4 of Tennessee, located at Newport, chartered December 5, 1806, by Grand Master John Hall. The charter officers of this Lodge were: Henry Stephen, Worshipful Master; Nathaniel Mitchel, Senior Warden, and Augustine Jenkins, Junior Warden.



OVERTON LODGE, No. 51 of North Carolina, No. 5 of Tennessee, located at Rogersville, chartered November 21, 1807, by Grand Master John Hall. The charter officers of this Lodge were: Samuel Powell, Worshipful Master; Jonathan Spyker, Senior Warden, and John Johnston, Junior Warden.



KING SOLOMON LODGE, No. 52 of North Carolina, No. 6 of Tennessee, located at Gallatin, chartered December 9, 1808, by Grand Master John Hall. The charter officers of this Lodge were: John Johnston, Worshipful Master; Andrew Buckham, Senior Warden, and John Mitchell, Junior Warden.



HIRAM LODGE, No. 55 of North Carolina, No. 7 of Tennessee, located at Franklin, chartered December 11, 1809, by Grand Master Benjamin Smith. The charter officers of this Lodge were: Charles McAlister, Worshipful Master; Guilford Dudley, Senior Warden, and George Hulme, Junior Warden. When this Lodge was under dispensation, before receiving its charter, it was called FRANKLIN LODGE. The application for its dispensation was forwarded to the joint Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee by Lieuten-



ant-Colonel Hardy Murfree (heretofore mentioned), but Brother Murfree died before the charter was granted.



CUMBERLAND LODGE, No. 60 of North Carolina, No. 8 of Tennessee, located at Nashville, erected under a dispensation June 24, 1812, by Grand Master Robert Williams. The officers named in the dispensation were: Judge John Overton, Worshipful Master; Lemuel T. Turner, Senior Warden, and William P. Anderson, Junior Warden. The above dispensation was surrendered to the Grand Lodge of Tennessee after the formation of the new independent Grand Lodge, and another dispensation, dated February 8, 1814, was then granted it by Tennessee authority. At the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee it was duly chartered.



RHEA LODGE, No. 61 of North Carolina, No. 9 of Tennessee, located at Port Royal, erected under a dispensation May 1, 1812, by Grand Master Robert Williams. The officers named in the dispensation were: John Baker, Worshipful Master; John E. Turner, Senior Warden, and James Norfleet, Junior Warden. On October 1, 1814, it was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, its name being then changed to WESTERN STAR LODGE. The charter officers of Western Star Lodge were: John E. Turner, Worshipful Master; James Norfleet, Senior Warden, and George T. Wair, Junior Warden.



This concludes the list of the subordinate Lodges erected in Tennessee by North Carolina authority. At Clover Bottom, in Davidson County, Tennessee, PHILANTHROPIC LODGE

was erected by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, but its charter was afterwards revoked upon a realization that the joint Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee had a just claim to jurisdiction in the territory where it was located. It was represented to Kentucky that charters from Great Britain had been received in Colonial days constituting a Grand Lodge in the then British Province of North Carolina, and this Provincial Grand Lodge of North Carolina of course included the territory later covered by Tennessee, as that territory was then a part of North Carolina; that Kentucky herself then had no Grand Lodge, but was a part of Virginia, and Masonically under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of that Province; hence that North Carolina had jurisdiction over Tennessee by right of prior occupancy. Though Kentucky, about the year 1812, yielded to the justice of this claim, the dispute was for a while the source of some ill feeling between the Grand Lodges, and in 1809 the matter was taken under consideration by a committee whose chairman was Hutchins G. Burton, afterwards Grand Master and also Governor. This committee reported that justice to the Craft compelled them to perform the painful duty of recommending to the joint Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee a resolution providing "that one request more be made to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky to call in any charter or charters, which may have been issued by them constituting a Lodge or Lodges in the State of Tennessee, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee; and, if the same is not by them done in a convenient time, that this Grand Lodge will forever renounce all farther communications with them, or any of their subordinate Lodges; and that no Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall have any communications with them, or any Lodge under their jurisdiction." Though the relations between North Carolina and Kentucky were sorely strained, a reconciliation was finally effected, and it is devoutly to be hoped that never again will exist between these sister Grand Lodges a cause for strain or break in the cement of brotherly

love and affection "which unites us into one sacred band, or society of friends and brothers, among whom no contention should ever exist but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree."

As to the title "Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee," that designation was assumed about the year 1801, yet the legal style of the grand jurisdiction (under the legislative act of incorporation, heretofore quoted) was still The Grand Lodge of North Carolina. The last meeting of the joint jurisdiction of North Carolina and Tennessee was held at Raleigh in November, 1812. At this meeting a petition was received from the subordinate Lodges of Tennessee, asking that an independent Grand Lodge be set up in that State. It was also stated that six chartered subordinate Lodges and three under dispensation had been represented at a meeting in Knoxville, December 2, 1811, for the purpose of making this request. The best of feeling had always prevailed in the joint jurisdiction of the two sections; and now, for the good of the Craft, the mother Grand Lodge of North Carolina was glad to gratify the wishes of her daughter beyond the mountains, sad though the parting might be. Grand Master Robert Williams presided over the joint Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee at the time of the reception of the above petition, and this distinguished brother had the honor of signing the charter which brought into being the new and independent Grand Lodge of Tennessee. By this charter, dated September 30, 1813, the subordinate Lodges located in Tennessee were ordered to assemble their representatives in the town of Knoxville, on December 27, 1813, to formally constitute The Grand Lodge of Tennessee. At this meeting was proclaimed the charter or deed of relinquishment from the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, which ran as follows:

*Sit Lux et Lux Fuit.*

TO ALL AND EVERY OF OUR RIGHT WORSHIPFUL, WORSHIPFUL, AND WELL-BELOVED BRETHREN, GREETING:

KNOW YE, THAT THE MOST WORSHIPFUL ROBERT WIL-

LIAMS, ESQ., GENERAL, &C., GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA AND TENNESSEE, OF ANCIENT YORK MASONS, HAS ORDAINED AND DIRECTED AS FOLLOWS, VIZ.,

I, ROBERT WILLIAMS, Grand Master of Masons, by the powers and authorities vested in me, as such, by the Ancient Land Marks of our Order, and by and with the advice and consent of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee, for this purpose had and obtained, Do hereby Declare and Ordain that the following Lodges within the State of Tennessee, viz.: Tennessee Lodge, No. 41, in the town of Knoxville; Greeneville Lodge, No. 43, in the town of Greeneville; Newport Lodge, No. 50, in the town of Newport; Overton Lodge, No. 51, in the town of Rogersville; King Solomon Lodge, No. 52, in the town of Gallatin; Hiram Lodge, No. 55, in the town of Franklin; Cumberland Lodge, No. 60, in the town of Nashville; Western Star Lodge, No. 61, in Port Royal — Be and they are hereby authorized and empowered either by themselves or by their Representatives, chosen for that purpose, to constitute a Grand Lodge for the State of Tennessee. And I do, as Grand Master of Masons, by and with the advice and consent of our Grand Lodge aforesaid, renounce and release unto the said Lodges all jurisdiction over them: and I do hereby transfer and make over to the said Lodges all the powers and authorities which our Grand Lodge had, by ancient usage, a right to exercise over them or either of them, upon the following terms and conditions, to-wit: That the said Lodges, or a majority of them, shall within twelve months after the reception of this authority by them, either by themselves or by Representatives duly appointed by them for that purpose, meet in Convention, and then and there make such rules, regulations or laws, for the government of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee as they may think proper; that the said Grand Lodge, when thus constituted, shall once in each and every year, elect a brother of our Order as Grand Master of said Grand Lodge; that they also shall elect a Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior War-

den, Grand Secretary, and Grand Treasurer; that the Grand Master, so elected and installed, under his own sign manual shall appoint a Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Chaplain, Grand Pursuivant, Grand Marshal, Grand Sword Bearer, and one or more Grand Tylers, also such number of Stewards and other inferior Officers as he may from time to time think proper to make.

It is further Ordered and Ordained that the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, thus constituted, shall be vested with all powers and authorities which any other Grand Lodge, known among our Craft, has a right to use and exercise; and that they may make and constitute new Lodges at their discretion within their jurisdiction, and the Charters of each and every Lodge, as well those by them to be made as those recited in this instrument, to arrest and dissolve upon such terms as the said Grand Lodge of Tennessee may think proper to prescribe.

And it is further Ordered and Ordained that the said Grand Lodge of Tennessee take special care that the Ancient Land Marks of our most ancient and honourable Institution shall be in every instance whatever solemnly kept and preserved.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I DO HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSE THE GREAT SEAL OF MASONRY TO BE AFFIXED, AT RALEIGH, THIS 30TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A. L. 5813, A. D. 1813.

(SEAL)

ROBT. WILLIAMS.

Test:

A. LUCAS,

Grand Secretary.

The first Grand Master of the new Grand Lodge of Tennessee was the Honorable Thomas Claiborne, later a representative from Tennessee in the fifteenth Congress of the United States at the sessions of 1817-1819. The other Grand Lodge Officers were: George Wilson, Deputy Grand Master; John Hall, Grand Senior Warden; Abraham K. Shaifer, Grand

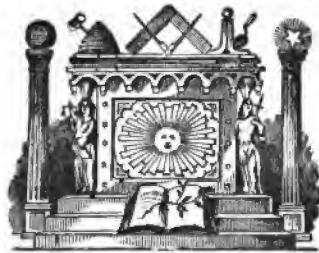
Junior Warden; Edward Scott, Grand Secretary; Thomas McCorry, Grand Treasurer; Reverend Stephen Brooks, Grand Chaplain; John Bright, Grand Tiler. As Grand Deacons were not immediately appointed, Brothers McCorry and Scott filled those places on the first opening of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. The new Grand Lodge began work on the Feast of Saint John the Evangelist, December 27, 1813.

When the land forming Tennessee was a part of North Carolina, and more latterly when the two separate States were united to form one grand Masonic jurisdiction, Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge were elected for the following terms: Samuel Johnston, December 11, 1787–November 18, 1788; Richard Caswell, November 18, 1788–November 21, 1789 (died November 10, 1789, eleven days before his term expired); Samuel Johnston, again, November 21, 1789–December 14, 1792; William Richardshon Davie, December 14, 1792–December 4, 1799; William Polk, December 4, 1799–December 12, 1802; John Louis Taylor, December 12, 1802–December 12, 1805; John Hall, December 12, 1805–December 16, 1808; Benjamin Smith, December 16, 1808–November 29, 1811; and Robert Williams, November 29, 1811–November 26, 1814 (in which latter year Taylor again became Grand Master). In the history of North Carolina there cannot be found a list of names more honored than the ones just mentioned. Johnston, Caswell, Davie, and Smith were all Governors of the State and all noted patriots of the Revolution; Taylor was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and Hall an Associate Justice of that tribunal; Polk was one of Washington's most trusted officers in the then recent war; and Williams, a member of Congress, Adjutant General, etc. Governor Benjamin Smith was a nephew and namesake of that Benjamin Smith who had been elected Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of South Carolina in 1742. Of the connection between the two we shall make mention later on.

The above is a brief—all too brief—account of the joint Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee. North Caro-

lina has chartered subordinate Lodges in Mississippi and elsewhere at a later date, and these have aided in forming new Grand Lodges since the erection of that of Tennessee in 1813. These additional Grand Lodges, however, will not be mentioned herein, as the present work only deals with the earlier history of the Craft.

Seven years hence—on December 27, 1913—the Grand Lodge of Tennessee will have completed one hundred years of independent existence. This time is not far in the future, and the brethren residing in Tennessee should see to it that so important an anniversary in the history of Masonry should not pass unnoticed. Among other things appropriate to the occasion should be work of an historical nature in keeping with the importance of the subject. That it may be well and worthily done, if undertaken, is the earnest hope of the writer who now submits this brief outline of whilom “Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee.”







**Some Grand Lodge Officers who had  
Jurisdiction over North Carolina  
in Colonial Days.**



## SOME GRAND LODGE OFFICERS WHO HAD JURISDICTION OVER NORTH CAROLINA IN COLONIAL DAYS.

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And now we leave the general discussion of Freemasonry as it existed in North Carolina from the Colonial period to the time just succeeding the Revolution, and shall have something to say of the personal history of the Grand Lodge officers who ruled the Craft in Colonial days, but not including those who held office after the War for Independence. The following were Grand Lodge officers prior to the Revolution:

The Right Worshipful JOHN HAMMERTON, of South Carolina, Provincial Grand Master with jurisdiction over both Carolinas by appointment of the Earl of Loudon, Grand Master of England, in 1736.

The Right Worshipful THOMAS COOPER, of Pitt County, North Carolina, who was appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master for North Carolina in 1767, by Acting Provincial Grand Master Henry Price of the Grand Lodge in Boston.

The Right Worshipful JOSEPH MONTFORT, of Halifax, North Carolina, who was made Provincial Grand Master "of and for America" by appointment of the Duke of Beaufort, Grand Master of England in 1771.

The Right Worshipful JAMES MILNER, of Halifax, North Carolina, Deputy Provincial Grand Master by appointment of Provincial Grand Master Montfort in 1771.

The Right Worshipful CORNELIUS HARNETT, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, Deputy Provincial Grand Master by appointment of Provincial Grand Master Montfort in 1773.

The Right Worshipful WILLIAM BRIMAGE, Provincial Grand Secretary by appointment of Provincial Grand Master Montfort in 1771.

Milner died in 1772, or in the earlier part of January, 1773, and Harnett was appointed his successor. Montfort died in 1776, and thereby the offices of his appointees, Har-

nett and Brimage, became null and void. In that way the Colonial Grand Lodge passed out of existence in 1776, about the time that North Carolina was transformed from a Province into an independent State.

All of the above Grand Lodge officers will presently be given more particular notice. Before proceeding with this narrative, however, it may be well to mention the fact that in Colonial days no Provincial Grand Master in America, however high his rank might be, had a right to the designation *Most Worshipful*, as was the case in independent Grand Lodges after the Revolution. Provincial Grand Masters, being only appointees, holding at the pleasure of Grand Masters in England and elsewhere, were styled *Right Worshipful*. The latter title, we may add, was used for some time after the Revolution also, as the first Grand Master of the independent Grand Lodge of North Carolina is so recorded in the proceedings when the reorganization was effected.



#### THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JOHN HAMMERTON.

Provincial Grand Master of the Carolinas.

The North Carolina historian François Xavier Martin, an eminent member of the Masonic fraternity, was author of one of the addresses in a work published under the auspices of the joint Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee, in 1805, entitled *Ahiman Rezon and Masonic Ritual*. In this is the statement: "Masons crossed the Atlantic with the first settlers of the British Colonies in America; and, soon after, the Grand Masters of England appointed Provincial Grand Masters and constituted regular Lodges in the New World. The Carolinas, whose settlement is of a later date, had no Provincial Grand Master until 1736, when the Earl of Loudon appointed JOHN HAMMERTON, Esq., to that dig-

nity. From him a regular succession can be traced to Joseph Montfort, Esq., who was appointed by the Duke of Beaufort towards the year 5769." It will here be noted that Brother Martin says Provincial Grand Master Montfort's commission

*J. Hammerton*

was issued "towards the year"—*Anno Lucis*—5769. The exact date was January 14th, in the year of our Lord 1771 (*Anno Lucis* 5771), as shown by the original instrument, now owned by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. A copy of the Duke of Beaufort's charter has already been set forth on a previous page.

Exactly in what relation Provincial Grand Master Hammerton stood toward Masonry in North Carolina I have not been able to discover; but, assuming that so accurate a historian as Brother Martin had some authority for the above statement—made not more than thirty years after Hammerton's death—a sketch of the latter is included herein, though he was a citizen of Charleston, in South Carolina. Coupled with his appointment as Provincial Grand Master of South Carolina, he may have been vested with authority over unoccupied territory in general outside of that Province. In later years it became customary for Provincial Grand Masters to have such additional jurisdiction conferred by their commissions, as was the case with Montfort.

After his first appointment in 1736, Grand Master Hammerton remained in office not more than a year. He was succeeded by James Graeme (later Chief Justice), who served until December 27, 1740, when John Houghton was elected to the post. Houghton discharged the duties of his station till December 27, 1741, when Hammerton again became Grand Master—this time by election of the Grand Lodge of the Province of South Carolina—and served during

1741-1742, in which latter year (on Monday, December 28th) Judge Benjamin Smith was elected.\*

It is probable that when the Provincial Grand Lodge of South Carolina elected Grand Masters as above, such action did not nullify the chartered authority conferred by Lord Loudon upon Hammerton; for I find it recorded in an old work on Masonry, published considerably more than a hundred years ago, that Provincial Grand Master Hammerton, in 1739, was personally present in his official capacity at a meeting of the Grand Lodge of England, held in London at the Devil's Tavern, and presided over by Henry Brydges, Marquis of Carnarvon, son and heir of the first Duke of Chandos.

It should also be mentioned in connection with Hammerton's personal Masonic history that, before receiving the higher honor, he was Worshipful Master of Solomon Lodge at Charleston, to which reference has already been made on a previous page of this work.

Grand Master Hammerton was one of the foremost colonists of his day in South Carolina. In 1731 he was a member of the Provincial Council under Governor Robert Johnson; was Secretary of the Province for thirty years, from

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\* This Grand Master Benjamin Smith, of South Carolina, had a brother Thomas Smith, who was father of Governor Benjamin Smith, of North Carolina, Grand Master of the joint Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee. The above Benjamin, Sr., and Thomas Smith, of South Carolina, were the sons of Colonel Thomas Smith, of that province, the maiden name of whose wife was also Smith. This lady, Sabina Smith, was the daughter of Thomas Smith, second Landgrave of his name in South Carolina. Governor and Grand Master Benjamin Smith, of North Carolina, is interred in the burial ground of St. James Church, at Wilmington, where a slab was erected to his memory, but was afterwards broken. His body was not lost, as stated in the North Carolina Grand Lodge Proceedings for 1899, pp. 52-53, though he was secretly buried. Governor Smith, in his younger days, was aid-de-camp to General Washington during the Revolution, and owned a Masonic apron once used by his great chief. He was one of the earliest benefactors of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

1732 to 1762, though residing in England and acting by Deputies a good deal of this time; in 1740, when Charleston was nearly destroyed by fire, he was on committee which distributed funds voted by the British Parliament to aid the sufferers; he was Receiver General of Quit-rents, 1732-1742, and went as a Commissioner to Governor Oglethorpe, of Georgia, shortly before 1740, to confer about South Carolina's trade with that Province. His wife was Elizabeth Long, daughter of a member of the British Parliament, Charles Long, of Hurts Hall, in the county of Suffolk, and granddaughter of Sir Nicholas Lawes, Governor of the West Indian Island of Jamaica. Mr. Long himself was also a resident of Jamaica at one time.

To Hammerton belongs the distinction of having been one of the earliest Provincial Grand Masters in America. He was commissioned in 1736 by John Campbell, fourth Earl of Loudon; and it was only six years prior thereto, 1730, that Thomas Howard, eighth Duke of Norfolk, then Grand Master of England, issued the first commission ever sent to a Provincial Grand Master in America, whereby Daniel Coxe, of New Jersey, was made Provincial Grand Master of the Colonies of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.



**THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THOMAS COOPER,**

**Deputy Grand Master of the Province of North Carolina.**

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On December 30, 1767, a commission was issued to THOMAS COOPER, of Pitt County, North Carolina, constituting and appointing him Provincial Deputy Grand Master of North Carolina. This commission was issued by the Right Worshipful Henry Price, of Massachusetts, Acting Provincial Grand Master of all such parts of North America as were not already under the jurisdiction of some other Grand

Master. Brother Price was Past Grand Master as well as Acting Grand Master, having himself (as far back as 1733) received a commission from the Grand Master of England, Anthony Browne, sixth Viscount Montague. When Cooper's

*Thomas Cooper*

commission was issued by Price, however, the latter 'was temporarily presiding over the Grand Lodge in Boston as successor to the Right Worshipful Jeremy Gridley, Provincial Grand Master, who had recently died.

Deputy Provincial Grand Master Cooper was empowered by his commission from Provincial Grand Master Price to congregate all the brethren then residing, or who might thereafter reside, in North Carolina, into one or more Lodges, at such place or places within the Province as should most redound to the benefit of Masonry. Though the present whereabouts of the original commission to Cooper is not known (if, indeed, it be in existence), a copy of the same has been preserved, as hereinbefore set forth.

As already stated on a previous page of the present work, Brother Cooper was Worshipful Master of what was known on the rolls of the Grand Lodge in Boston as "The First Lodge in Pitt County" before he was made Deputy Provincial Grand Master. Whether he ever chartered any subordinate Lodges is not known. The Lodge of which he was Master was chartered in 1766, or prior thereto, by the Right Worshipful Jeremy Gridley, and was located at Crown Point, a place in Pitt County. Crown Point was probably named after the place where the Army Lodge was located in the French and Indian War, as heretofore noted. A roll of the membership of the Lodge in Pitt County in 1767 has already been given.



Brother Cooper was a merchant doing business in Pitt County, and personally attended one or more meetings of the Grand Lodge in Boston. It may be that he formerly resided in that city. It may be, also, that he returned to New England, for no record of his future career in North Carolina can be found. The Pitt County Lodge paid dues to the Grand Lodge in Boston up to the outbreak of the War of the Revolution, at a time when North Carolina had its own Provincial Grand Lodge; hence the two Grand Bodies, it would seem, had concurrent jurisdiction at that time.

It is greatly to be regretted that no more definite and satisfactory information has been obtained concerning Brother Cooper's personal history. Past Master Henry Harding, of Greenville Lodge, No. 284, a well informed member of the Craft now residing in Pitt County, writes: "Thomas Cooper seems to have passed out with the old Lodge of which he was Master. Of his antecedents we have been unable to learn anything; and of his subsequent life and acts he has left no record here."



THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JOSEPH MONTFORT,  
Provincial Grand Master of North America.

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"Sir Simon de Montfort my subject shall be,  
Once chief of all the great barons was he;  
Yet fortune so cruel this lord did abase,  
Now lost and forgotten are he and his race."

So runs the old English ballad which, in later verses, tells how this great feudal lord was overthrown and slain at the Battle of Evesham, and how his son (whose eyes were shot out in the same fight) avoided the vengeance of enemies by disguising himself as "a silly blind beggar of Bethnal Green"—remaining in that lowly state for many years until his

daughter followed the usual custom of heroines by marrying a magnanimous young knight who "weighed not true love by the weight of the purse." Then to shield the bride from scorn, the erstwhile beggar clad himself in a silk cloak with velvet cap and feather, proclaimed his noble descent, heaped gold without measure upon his daughter by way of a dower; and of course they all lived happily ever after. But—

"Ours are the days of fact, not fable,  
Of knights, but not of the Round Table,"

and another Montfort (who claimed descent from the above family) "my subject shall be" in the present sketch.

One of the most highly prized possessions of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina is a large parchment commission, of which a copy has already been set forth herein, bearing date

January 14th, in the year of  
our Lord 1771 (*Anno Lucis*  
5771), issued by Henry  
Somerset, fifth Duke of  
Beaufort, then Grand Mas-

ter of the Grand Lodge of England, to JOSEPH MONTFORT, of Halifax, in the Province of North Carolina in America. This commission is countersigned by Charles Dillon, Deputy Grand Master, and James Heseltine, Grand Secretary. The

*Joseph Montfort*

*J. S. Montfort*

Grand Master styles himself by his various titles of nobility as "Duke of Beaufort, Marquis & Earl of Worcester, Earl of Glamorgan, Viscount Grosmont, Baron Herbert, Lord of Ragland, Chepstow & Gower, Baron Beaufort of Caldecot Castle, Grand Master of the most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons." By this commission

Brother Montfort became "Provincial Grand Master of and for America, with full power and Authority in due form to make Masons & Constitute and Regulate Lodges, as Occasion may Require."

In what Lodge Brother Montfort was made a Mason is not known, though it may be safely assumed that it was somewhere in Great Britain, he being an Englishman. When the charter for Royal White Hart Lodge from England was received, empowering the brethren at Halifax to work, Montfort became Worshipful Master, and proclaimed the charter in open Lodge.

Grand Master Montfort was a citizen of the town of Halifax, in Halifax County, North Carolina. He was born in the year 1724. Though a native of England, his surname is often confused (even by his own descendants) with that of a family in the Province of Virginia having an orthography somewhat similar. His ancestry in the mother country is said to be of the same house as the old Earls of Leicester, one of whom was the above mentioned Simon de Montfort, who married a daughter of King John, later rebelled against his brother-in-law, Henry the Third, and led in the establishment of what in after years became the English House of Commons.

Both socially and politically Grand Master Joseph Montfort was a man of high standing in North Carolina. Prior to the erection of the county of Halifax, in 1758 (theretofore a part of Edgecombe County), Montfort was Clerk of the Court for the county of Edgecombe. Upon the erection of the county of Halifax, or shortly thereafter, a Court District (formed of the counties of Granville, Northampton, Edgecombe, and Halifax), the sessions of which once were held at Enfield, had its place of sitting changed to the town of Halifax. Montfort then became Clerk of this District Court. By Chapter X. of the Private Laws of 1764 he was appointed a member of the Board of Commissioners of the town of Halifax. His associates on this Board were Alexander Mc-

Culloch,\* Blake Baker, John Eelbeck, James Young, John Thompson, and Robert Jones, Junior (otherwise known as "Robin" Jones). In the years 1762, 1764, 1766, 1767, and 1773, Montfort's name is recorded as a member of the Colonial Assembly of North Carolina. He was also Colonel of Provincial troops.

Prior to the Revolution the Province had two Public Treasurers—one for the northern counties and one for the southern. By Chapter X. of the Public Laws of 1764 (first session), Montfort was elected Treasurer of the Northern Counties. His official district as Treasurer at first included the counties of Currituck, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Chowan, Bertie, Tyrrell, Northampton, Edgecombe, Granville, Orange, Hertford, Bute, and Halifax. By Chapter V. of the Public Laws of 1773, the new county of Chatham was added thereto. While Montfort was Treasurer of the northern counties, the insurrection of the Regulators was in progress, and Governor Tryon called on both Treasurers for the necessary funds to fit out his military expedition against the insurgents. As there could be found no law authorizing such disbursements, Montfort refused to comply with the Governor's requisition; and, as a consequence, very few troops marched from the northern counties. Those detachments which went from these counties were, for the most part, self-equipped companies of volunteers. Tryon was more successful with the Treasurer of the southern counties, Colonel John Ashe, who did everything he could to aid the government not only in an official way, but even pledged his personal

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\* Alexander McCulloch married Sarah Hill, a sister of Grand Master Montfort's wife. Both he and Henry Eustace McCulloh were members of the Governor's Council. Though they spelled their names differently there was a blood relationship between them. McCulloch has numerous descendants in North Carolina and elsewhere in America. McCulloch went back to England, where he died without lawful issue, being a bachelor. (See *Life and Correspondence of James Iredell*, by G. J. McRee, Vol. I., pp. 7-9, 341.)

credit to forward the enterprise, and afterwards fought under the Governor's banner at the Battle of Alamance.

By Chapter V. of the Public Laws of 1771, Colonel Montfort was elected on a committee to manage the affairs of North Carolina in England through the agency of Henry Eustace McCulloh. Serving on this committee with Montfort were Lewis Henry DeRosset, Marmaduke Jones, Richard Caswell, John Harvey, James Moore, Robert Howe, Maurice Moore, and Cornelius Harnett.

The two autographs of Montfort which accompany this sketch are from papers signed by him in the same year, though the signatures differ somewhat in form.

In the beginning of the troubles between America and Great Britain, Grand Master Montfort at once took sides with the Colonies, and was elected to represent the borough of Halifax in the independent Provincial Congress which met at New Bern on the 3d of April, 1775. It is doubtful, however, whether he was physically able to be present at the sittings of that body which remained in session only four days and then adjourned.

For several years prior to the Revolution, Colonel Montfort had been seriously troubled with a malady which might now be diagnosed as appendicitis. His affection is described in a letter written on the 22d of February, 1774, by Andrew Miller, a merchant of Halifax, to Thomas Burke, afterwards Governor of the State. Miller said: "The Colonel has still a swelling of the intestines. Some of the doctors say it is temporary, others that it is an ulcer in the intestines. Be it as it will, I am afraid he is not long for this world."

Grand Master Montfort died on the 25th of March, 1776, while the war was still in its early stages. His wife died October 8, 1780. Had Montfort lived longer, there is little doubt that he would have been a potent factor in advancing the patriotic cause.

The wife of Grand Master Montfort (whom he married on the 15th of November, 1753) was Priscilla Hill, one of

the reigning belles of her day. She was a daughter of Colonel Benjamin Hill, who came to Bertie County, North Carolina, from Nansemond County, Virginia. Montfort had three children who grew to maturity. His only son, Henry Montfort, was early a member of the reorganized Grand Lodge of North Carolina after the Revolution, and married Sarah Edwards, sister of Governor Tryon's private secretary, Colonel Isaac Edwards, but left no surviving issue at the time of his death, which occurred in Philadelphia. The other children of Grand Master Montfort (besides one or more who died young) were two daughters: Mary, who married the great Revolutionary statesman, Willie Jones; and Elizabeth, who married Colonel John Baptista Ashe, another Revolutionary patriot, who was Governor-elect of North Carolina at the time of his death after the war. These ladies were among the most accomplished women of their time. Mrs. Ashe it was who heard Colonel Banastre Tarleton vauntingly express a desire to meet Colonel William Washington, and answered that this pleasure could have been experienced had Colonel Tarleton looked behind him at the Battle of Cowpens. On another occasion Tarleton told Mrs. Jones that he understood Washington was so illiterate he could scarcely write his name. "He can at least make his mark," replied that lady, pointing to Tarleton's hand, which still bore evidence of Washington's sabre-cut. These incidents have often been related, but are good enough to bear repetition. Mrs. Jones lived to extreme old age, and was residing at Halifax when Lafayette visited that town in 1825. When the courtly Marquis heard that this lady was too feeble to attend the reception which the town gave in his honor, he went in person to pay his respects to her. The *Raleigh Register*, of March 11, 1825, in quoting from a Halifax paper concerning the incident, says: "The meeting of the General and this venerable lady was truly affecting. There was not a dry eye in the room. The aged frame of Mrs. Jones was convulsed with feeling, and the General sank into a chair, overpowered with

various and conflicting emotions." Through both Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Ashe Grand Master Montfort has many descendants now living. There are other members of the Montfort family connection who are not his lineal descendants. His sister, Sallie Montfort, married David Stokes, and from her descended the noted Stokes family of North Carolina. One of her sons was Governor Montfort Stokes, prominent as an officer of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina after the Revolution—Junior Grand Warden, December 3, 1796--December 16, 1798; Senior Grand Warden, December 16, 1798--December 12, 1802; and Deputy Grand Master, December 12, 1802--November 28, 1807.

The Montfort family also had other connections in North Carolina.

So ends the story of Grand Master Montfort. Brief as it is, a few more years might make an attempt to portray his life even more difficult.

In speaking of the laudable work rendered by Old Mortality to the memory of the Covenanters, Sir Walter Scott says that he was "probably a mason by profession—at least, educated to the use of the chisel." Unlike Old Mortality, and unlike our ancient brethren "who wrought in Masonry both operative and speculative," the writer of the present sketch is a Mason who has not been educated to the use of the chisel. Hence he must perforce substitute the pen as a means of transmitting to his brethren this little memorial of that distinguished ruler of the Craft whose life is herein imperfectly recorded.



THE RIGHT WORSHIPPUL JAMES MILNER,  
Deputy Provincial Grand Master of North America.

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During the earlier part of the time that Colonel Joseph Montfort was "Provincial Grand Master of and for America,"

JAMES MILNER was his Deputy Grand Master. These gentlemen resided in the same town—Halifax, in Halifax County, North Carolina—and were close personal friends. It is probable that Deputy Grand Master Milner's commission was issued by Montfort, and not by the Grand Lodge of England. If this be true, Mil-

*Ja Milner*

ner's service was limited to the years 1771-1772, as he died in 1772, or in the earlier part of

January, 1773, and could not have been commissioned prior to 1771, in which year the Duke of Beaufort made Montfort Provincial Grand Master of America.

Brother Milner was an eminent member of the legal profession. Owing to his great ability as a lawyer, his services were often in demand outside of his home county. At the courts held for the District of Hillsborough he often appeared, and there shared the cream of the practice with such able members of the Bar as John Williams, John Kinchen, and Thomas McGuire, as we learn from a work on Colonial and Revolutionary times in Hillsborough, by Francis Nash. In addition to his professional acquirements, he was a man of fine literary taste, who owned one of the best libraries in the Colony—many works in Hebrew and Greek being included therein, as well as those on general subjects and law. His Hebrew and Greek works were bequeathed in his will to the Reverend William Willie, and the remainder of his library to other friends. Even at the present time, some ancient survivors of this literary collection are occasionally found, bearing book-plates with the Milner coat-of-arms engraved thereon.

Milner probably died unmarried, as he makes no reference in his will to either wife or children. He was possessed of a landed estate in Scotland ("North Britain," as he terms that country), and this, with five hundred pounds sterling, he bequeathed to his brother Arthur. He left Colonel Montfort four guineas with which to buy a "mourning ring," and to



the latter's two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth Montfort, he bequeathed one hundred pounds sterling each. As to money due him for professional services, Brother Milner's will breathes a true Masonic spirit. In it he says: "I will that no persons for whom I have done business in the law way, shall be called upon to pay money that is or may be due to me on that account, provided they be so poor as thereby to be put to difficulties in maintaining themselves and families."

Arthur Milner, brother of the above, later came in person to Halifax for the purpose of looking after his inherited interests, but it is probable that he did not remain permanently.

The successor of James Milner, as Deputy Grand Master, was one of the greatest patriots of Colonial and Revolutionary times, Cornelius Harnett, of the county of New Hanover, to whose life we shall direct attention in the next sketch.



#### THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL CORNELIUS HARNETT,

Deputy Provincial Grand Master of North America.

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Shortly after the death of James Milner, of Halifax, North Carolina, which occurred about the end of the year 1772, CORNELIUS HARNETT, of New Hanover County, succeeded him as Deputy Provincial Grand Master under the

Right Worshipful Joseph Montfort, of Halifax, who was Provincial Grand Master having jurisdiction (concurrent with other Provincial Grand Masters) over the entire Conti-

ment of North America. It has often been stated that Harnett was Provincial Grand Master of Virginia and lived in Norfolk. This is an error. His father, also named Cornelius Harnett, was a merchant originally from Dublin, and he may have once lived in Norfolk; but it was the younger Harnett who was Deputy Grand Master. The elder Harnett was also a noted Colonist, being member of the Governor's Council, High Sheriff, etc. He died about 1742.

Cornelius Harnett, our present subject, was born in the precinct (now county) of Chowan, on April 20, 1723. He was a life-long citizen of North Carolina.

Having jurisdiction (though not exclusive jurisdiction) of the whole Continent, Grand Master Montfort, and his Deputy, Brother Harnett, chartered some subordinate Lodges in Virginia, and this probably gave rise to the supposition that Harnett was Provincial Grand Master of Virginia. Positive evidence to show that Lodges in Virginia were established by the above authority lies in the fact that the Grand Lodge of that State now owns an original charter (dated April 13, 1775) signed by Joseph Montfort, of Halifax, North Carolina, Grand Master of North America, acting under the authority of His Grace the Duke of Beaufort, Grand Master of England, establishing a Royal Arch Chapter at Cabin Point, Virginia. This Virginia charter from Montfort, acting as Grand Master of America, is countersigned by Cornelius Harnett, his Deputy Provincial Grand Master. So this proves beyond all question that instead of being Provincial Grand Master of Virginia, Brother Harnett was Deputy Provincial Grand Master of North America—Virginia being a part of that jurisdiction. Of the general powers of Provincial Grand Masters who resided in the American Colonies and received their authority from England, Brother John Dove's work on Virginia Freemasonry says: "They, being themselves only appointees, had no power to perpetuate their appointments; and, consequently, at their death, or demise for any cause, all offices, and so-called Grand or Sub-

ordinate Bodies appointed and organized by them were and continued *functi officio*." Owing to the reasons set forth in the passage just quoted, Harnett's powers were regarded as having ceased when Montfort died in 1776, for in the Virginia proceedings, on October 13, 1778, we find this record: "It is the opinion of this Convention that the power and authority of Cornelius Harnett, Esq., as Deputy Grand Master of America, does not now exist." It will be observed that this official resolution calls Harnett by his proper title—Deputy Grand Master of America, not Provincial Grand Master of Virginia.

The public life of Brother Harnett forms a bright chapter of North Carolina history. He was brought in infancy from his birth-place in Chowan County to the vicinity of Wilmington when his father removed to the Cape Fear section. In 1760, when Wilmington was given legislative representation by being raised from the rank of an ordinary town to the dignity of a Borough, the younger Harnett is recorded as one of the town council. He had held that place since 1750. In later life he was an active and uncompromising advocate of popular sovereignty. During the Stamp Act troubles of Governor William Tryon's administration, he was one of those who boldly confronted the representatives of royalty and defied the power of Great Britain. Time and again he was a member of the Assembly of the Province prior to the Revolution as well as during that conflict.

Harnett's country-seat was called Maynard during his lifetime; but, after his death, upon its passing into the possession of the Hill family, the name was changed to Hillton or Hilton.

In the spring of 1773, Josiah Quincy, Junior, of Massachusetts, was a guest at Harnett's home, and in his diary refers to him as "the Samuel Adams of North Carolina." In speaking of the sentiments predominant at that time

among Harnett and his associates, Quincy says: "The plan of continental correspondence is highly relished, much wished for, and resolved upon as proper to be pursued."

Harnett had no sympathy with the insurrection of the Regulators, as his record in the Colonial Assembly shows. To speak in detail of his brilliant career as a Revolutionary statesman would be almost equivalent to writing a political history of the war in North Carolina. Only a bare summary of his services can be here given. On November 23, 1774, he became a member of the Committee of Safety for the Wilmington District, and was elected chairman of the same on January 5, 1775. In that capacity he received a hurried express on May 8th, telling of the Battle of Lexington. "For God's sake send the man on without the least delay and write Mr. Marion to forward it by night and day" was the message by which he passed it down through other Committees of Safety to Isaac Marion on the South Carolina border. He was elected chairman of the Provincial Council of the entire Colony on October 18, 1775, and as such was *de facto* Governor, though not vested with that title. He represented the borough of Wilmington in the Provincial Congresses of North Carolina at New Bern, in April, 1775; at Hillsborough, in August, 1775; and at Halifax, in April, 1776. He also was in the Provincial Congress at Halifax, in November, 1776, as representative of Brunswick County. While a member of the first named Congress at Halifax he was chairman of the committee which drew up the resolution authorizing North Carolina's delegates in the Continental Congress to join the representatives of other Colonies in declaring independence of Great Britain. This was passed on April 12, 1776, some weeks prior to the famous resolutions of similar purport which were adopted in Virginia. He was a member of the committee which drew up the State Constitution and Bill of Rights adopted by the Congress at Halifax, in the fall of 1776. He was present in Halifax, as President of the Provincial Council, when news of the National Declar-

ation of Independence reached that town, and it became his duty to proclaim it to the people. Describing that memorable scene, Jo. Seawell Jones, in his *Defence of North Carolina*, says: "At mid-day Cornelius Harnett ascended a rostrum which had been erected in front of the Court House, and, even as he opened the scroll upon which were written the immortal words of the Declaration, the enthusiasm of the immense crowd broke forth in one loud swell of rejoicing and prayer. The reader proceeded to his task and read the Declaration to the mute and impassioned multitude with the solemnity of an appeal to heaven. When he had finished, all the people shouted with joy, and the cannon, sounding from fort to fort, proclaimed the glorious tidings that all the Thirteen Colonies were now free and independent States. The soldiers seized Mr. Harnett and bore him on their shoulders through the streets of the town, applauding him as their champion and swearing allegiance to the instrument he had read." On December 18, 1776, Harnett was elected a member of the Governor's Council.

When Sir Henry Clinton came with his armament into the Cape Fear River, in May, 1776, he attempted to bring back the inhabitants of North Carolina to their allegiance to King George by a general proclamation of amnesty, "excepting only from the benefit of such pardon Cornelius Harnett and Robert Howe." Thus was treason made odious, and the names of Harnett and Howe given to the keeping of Fame for future generations to venerate.

From 1777 to 1780 Harnett represented North Carolina in several sessions of the Continental Congress. While a member of that august body he signed the Articles of Confederation between the States, and performed other important duties.

After the Battle of Guilford Court House, which occurred on the 15th of March, 1781, the British forces retreated to Wilmington. That town was already in the possession of one of the most trusted lieutenants of Cornwallis, Major Craig,

later known to fame as Sir James Henry Craig, Governor General of Canada. While at Wilmington, Major Craig made every effort to capture Harnett. The latter fled and sought refuge in Onslow County at the hospitable home of Colonel John Spicer, a gentleman closely identified with the American cause. Here he was taken ill, and a detachment of British cavalry, learning of his whereabouts, succeeded in effecting his capture. Strapped to a horse "like a sack of meal," the half-dead prisoner was carried back to Wilmington, and there placed in close confinement, but later paroled. He died soon after at the age of fifty-eight. His monument, in the burial-ground of Saint James's Church at Wilmington, states that he died on the 20th of April, 1781; yet his will, in his own handwriting, is dated April 28th, in the same year—eight days later.

Though a married man, Harnett died without lawful issue. On his grave-stone is an epitaph, said to have been selected by himself, which reads:

"Slave to no sect, he took no private road,  
But looked through Nature up to Nature's God."

This is from a passage in Pope's *Essay on Man*, which, when quoted *verbatim*, runs as follows:

"Slave to no sect, who takes no private road,  
But looks through Nature up to Nature's God."

Some writers have claimed that Harnett was a Deist, and others go so far as to call him an Atheist. It is needless to tell a Mason that the latter statement, at least, is not true concerning him. From time immemorial it has been held that no unbeliever is a fit person to be initiated into the mysteries of the Order. It was so in the Dark Ages; in 1722 it was reiterated in the *Charges of a Freemason*, and it is still a law of the Order. Whether a slave to no sect, a slave to all sects, a Christian, Unitarian, Jew, or Mohammedan, would not be called into question, provided Harnett believed in God—Nature's God, the God of all things in heaven above, in the

earth beneath, and the water under the earth—but, whatever may have been his personal views in a doctrinal way on the subject of religion, belief in God he surely professed when he became a Mason.

Aside from a question of Harnett's obligation as a Mason, we have abundant evidence to show most emphatically that he was no Atheist. He was a member of Saint James's Church at Wilmington, and owned pew No. 18 in that house of worship, as indicated by an old diagram of the same. He was one of those to whose efforts the erection of that church was due, as is shown by the fact that his name heads a subscription list gotten up for building purposes in 1753—his personal contribution being thirteen pounds and six shillings, or upwards of sixty-five dollars. For some years he served the parish of Saint James as a member of the vestry, and was a regular attendant on the meetings of that body. In 1771 he was one of those who petitioned Governor Josiah Martin that the pastoral services of the Reverend James Macartney should be engaged for the benefit of the Province. After 1776 he often held public office under the old State Constitution (an instrument he aided in drafting) which provided in its twenty-second section that eligibility to office should be vested in no person who denied the *being of God*, the truth of the Protestant religion, *the divine authority of either the Old or New Testament*, or should hold religious principles incompatible with the freedom and safety of the State. In the will of Harnett, written with his own hand, he reverently emphasizes the name of the Deity with an adjective not usually employed in such instruments—"In the sacred name of God, Amen."

Such is the evidence bearing on the case of Cornelius Harnett charged with Atheism. If the facts above quoted prove the charge, there are very few real believers in our day, for it is not every man who can show such a record for religious activity.

Many years ago a sketch of Harnett was written by Archibald Maclaine Hooper, who may have remembered him personally. In this sketch Mr. Hooper says: "His stature was about five feet, nine inches. In his person he was rather slender than stout. His hair was of a light brown and his eyes hazel. The contour of his face was not striking, nor were his features, which were small, remarkable for symmetry; but his countenance was pleasing; and his figure, though not commanding, was neither inelegant nor ungraceful."

The General Assembly of North Carolina has come to the aid of history in perpetuating the name of Cornelius Harnett, and emblazoned it on the map of the State to designate a county whose territory covers nearly six hundred square miles. With such a memorial the perpetuity of his fame is now assured.

On April 20, 1906, an interesting ceremony took place in the city of Wilmington when the Grand Lodge of Masons, by invitation of the North Carolina Society of the Colonial Dames of America, laid the corner-stone of a monument which that organization of patriotic ladies has undertaken to erect to Harnett's memory. Eloquent and instructive addresses were delivered on this occasion by Grand Master Francis D. Winston, and the Honorable Alfred Moore Waddell, Mayor of Wilmington, a member of Saint John's Lodge, No. 1. The site of this monument (at the intersection of Fourth and Market Streets) adjoins the burial-ground of Saint James's Church, and is only a few steps from the grave where Harnett's remains are interred. In generations to come this monument will proclaim the self-sacrificing devotion of a courageous Carolinian whose labors in behalf of his oppressed country ended only with the close of life, and the result of whose efforts survive to bless those of us whose lot has been cast in happier and more peaceful days.





THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL WILLIAM BRIMAGE,

Provincial Grand Secretary of North America.

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No war has ever harrassed an English-speaking country without working injury to Masonry. Members of the Craft, being always taught to follow their own convictions, are arrayed, to a greater or less extent, in the causes of contending factions, and the harmony of the Order is interrupted thereby. The War of the Revolution was no exception to this rule. While Washington, Lafayette, Franklin, Hancock, and other great leaders of the American cause, including Harnett, Davie, Caswell, Johnston, Polk, and their compatriots in North Carolina, were exerting every effort for independence, others remained loyal to the King. To this latter class—the



Loyalists—belonged the Right Worshipful WILLIAM BRIMAGE, of North Carolina, who was appointed Grand Secretary of and for America by Provincial Grand Master Joseph Montfort

shortly after the latter received his commission from the Duke of Beaufort, Grand Master of England, in 1771. Brother Brimage discharged the duties of his office until the death of Grand Master Montfort in 1776, when all of Montfort's appointments became null and void in consequence of his decease. Then the Grand Lodge in the Province passed out of existence for a time, and it was not until eleven years later that it was reorganized. As has already been shown, Montfort's jurisdiction extended beyond the confines of the Province of North Carolina. There are charters now extant in Virginia, and probably elsewhere, bearing his signature and that of Brother Brimage, the Grand Secretary.

For many of the particulars concerning the life of Grand Secretary Brimage I am indebted to the courtesy of one of

his descendants, who has kindly furnished me with a family record, written in part by Mr. Brimage himself.

William Brimage, only son of a gentleman of the same name, was born at Blackwell, near Darlington, in the county of Durham, England. He was united in marriage, on May 3, 1765, with his first wife, Frances Anne Gilbert, of Hanover Square, London; and a few weeks later, on May 25th, set sail for America, landing at Annapolis, Maryland, on the 4th of August following. He removed to Halifax, North Carolina, in April, 1766, and in December of the same year his wife died, after the loss of her only child, an infant son. Mrs. Brimage is interred in the Colonial burial-ground at Halifax. The inscription on her monument tells us, in the language of old Rome: "*Hic jacet corpus Frances Anne Brimage, uxor Gulielmi Brimage, haec Coloniae, Arm. Obiit 21st Decr., Anno Dom. 1766. Aetatis suae 29.*"—(Here lies the body of Frances Anne Brimage, wife of William Brimage, of this Colony, Esq. She died 21st of December, in the year of our Lord 1766. Her age 29.) To the above Latin inscription on the monument of Mrs. Brimage is the addition in English: "A sincere friend, a tender, affectionate, and good wife."

In June, 1767, Mr. Brimage returned to England, and there remained till July, 1768, when he again set sail for America, arriving at his old home in Halifax during the following October. In August, 1769, he removed to New Bern, the new capital of the Province and the home of His Excellency William Tryon, Royal Governor. In 1770 Mr. Brimage was made Judge of the Court of Vice Admiralty for the Port of Roanoke at Edenton, and exercised the functions of that office for some time. I have seen an original decree of this Court, signed by Judge Brimage, and attested by his private seal. The latter bears the armorial device of his family, which the wax is not sufficiently preserved to show in full, though the crest appears to be a human arm.

On May 25, 1773, Judge Brimage was again married (the Reverend James Reed officiating) to Elizabeth West, daughter and only surviving child of Thomas West—then deceased—and grand-daughter of Colonel Robert West, of the county of Bertie. In the September following this second marriage, he removed with his wife to her estate of Westbrooke (afterwards called Brimage's Neck) on Cashie River in Bertie County. At this place he remained in the full enjoyment of domestic tranquility until the outbreak of the war which was destined to blast his happiness by scattering his household and driving him an exile from America.

At the beginning of the Revolution, when the Whigs were seeking leaders to pilot them through their great struggle for independence, the people of Bertie County sought the services of Judge Brimage and elected him a member of the independent Provincial Congress at Hillsborough in August, 1775. But the journals of this body do not show that Brimage was present. He probably refused to serve. His loyalty to the King of his native land was too strong to be turned aside either by the oppressions of the Parliament of Great Britain or American notions of liberty, and he soon became identified with the much despised Tory faction of North Carolina. In 1777 he became involved in a plot to overturn the Whig government. This conspiracy was said to extend from Virginia to Georgia. That some of its leaders were bloodthirsty and unscrupulous partisans, or threatened much more than they ever intended to do, there is little doubt; but the fact that Brimage was released after being captured, while several of the others were sentenced to death for participation in the plot, shows that the former did not anticipate going beyond the rules of lawful warfare. He did, however, bear a part in extending the organization of a secret society of Loyalists of eastern North Carolina, and of this he was elected one of the "Senior Wardens." There seems to have been quite a number of officers with this title—one for each county. According to the testimony of a witness who turned State's evidence, one of the ways of recognizing a

member of this Tory fraternity was about as follows: A man would rub his face or coat with his right hand, the forefinger pointing upward. Then a person meeting him (if a member) might ask: "To what do you point?" After this came the reply: "I point to a secret; have you the secret?" Then the interrogator said: "Give me your secret." Now would be answered: "I did not get it so." The first would thereupon ask: "How can I get it?" Then each would challenge the other to "letter and half it," after which the words "Be true" would be spelt out, each man alternately supplying a letter, at the conclusion of which one would exclaim: "I hope you will!" In another degree of the same Order, the word "Night" would be spelt in like manner, to show that the Loyalists would rise up in the night and slay the King's enemies. In whose ingenious brain the intricacies of recognition in this society originated does not appear. It was already organized before Brimage became a member.

One of the plans of the above secret society was to rise up and capture the powder magazine at Tarborough. About thirty gathered near that town in July, 1777, for the purpose of making a descent. At that place was stationed, on recruiting duty, Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Irwin (afterwards killed at the Battle of Germantown), who gathered together about twenty-five recruits to protect the town and arsenal. The attacking party was unsuccessful, and Irwin captured and disarmed many of them, while others succeeded in escaping. It does not appear that Brimage took part in the above skirmish—if, indeed, he was in that part of the State—but he was considered one of the ring-leaders of the faction, and at once sought safety in flight. Governor Caswell thereupon issued orders to Major David Barron at New Bern to apprehend him should he attempt to escape in that direction. Under date of July 28th, Barron replied to the Governor as follows: "I have despatched Lieutenant Shadrach Fulcher with a party of men after Brimage, with orders not to return without him, provided he has not left the State;

if so, to make strict inquiry in what vessel he took his passage. \* \* \* I mentioned Mr. Brimage's situation to Telfair. He assured me he should not have a passage in the brig by any means whatever except a passport from you." By reading the passage just quoted, Master Masons will be reminded of three Fellow Crafts who fled to Joppa—and then will realize that history sometimes repeats itself. Not having Governor Caswell's passport, Brimage was arrested while trying to gain passage by sea into Virginia. He later escaped, however, and went to Roanoke Island, where he was arrested by John Mann and placed in jail at Edenton. One of his old neighbors, Brigadier-General Allen Jones, joyfully imparted the news to Thomas Burke, saying: "The great Mr. Brimage is in Edenton jail, being one of the heads of these cut-throats." By way of a happy solution of the matter, General Jones adds: "I make no doubt but hanging about a dozen will have an exceedingly good effect in this State, and give stability to our new government. They seem to have been designed for this purpose by Providence." The sentiments just quoted differ somewhat from those of Sir Henry Wotton, who once said that hanging was the worst use a man could be put to.

Brimage did not long remain in the "poisonous and noisome dungeon," as he called his place of confinement at Edenton. Possibly when brought to trial it developed that though he might be a faithful adherent of the King, he could not be proved a "cut-throat," and so his liberty was restored. At any rate, on the 10th of October, 1777, he is found at Westbrooke, his home in Bertie County, whence he wrote Governor Caswell, complaining that personal belongings were taken from him when he was captured and had not been returned.

Brother Brimage probably left North Carolina shortly after his release from prison. He no doubt began to realize that the State was not a healthy abode for adherents of King George. Prior to the time of his release many Loyalists had

been given the alternative of taking the oath of allegiance to the new State government or seeking homes elsewhere. Brimage was not the only prominent member of the Masonic fraternity who left the State under these circumstances. Chief Justice Martin Howard, Past Master of Saint John's Lodge at New Bern, took his departure with quite a number of Loyalists in July, 1777, first going to New York and then to England.

Among the letters addressed to Governor Caswell while the war was in progress we find one from Thomas Clarke, of Bertie County, stating that the County Court there had ordered himself, Thomas Bog, and Richard Jones, to leave the State; and, as soon as passports could be obtained from the Governor, they would take shipping on a vessel called the *Free Mason*, of which Bog was to have command. The name of this vessel, we may add, was not the only visible impress of Masonry to be found in North Carolina during the Revolution, as the brethren of that day even put their mark on the State's money. In describing one of the bills of credit issued by the authority of the State Congress at Hillsborough, Jo. Seawell Jones, in his *Defence of North Carolina*, says: "It is adorned in the margin with a Masonic emblem, and signed by Richard Caswell, Samuel Johnston, Andrew Knox, and Richard Cogdell." Both Caswell and Johnston were Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina after the Revolution, while Cogdell (and possibly Knox) was also a member of the craft.

After leaving North Carolina, Brother Brimage went to the Island of Bermuda. On December 20, 1780, three of his children—Thomas, Elizabeth, and Mary—sailed on the sloop *Eliza* to Bermuda to join their father, and reached there in the month following, January, 1781.

In 1783 Brother Brimage was living in England; but his wife had, in the meantime, made several trips to America. In 1781 she landed in Virginia under a flag of truce, and in the following year returned to Bermuda, at which place

she became the mother of another child. Mrs. Brimage finally returned to North Carolina to resume her residence, accompanied by her smaller children, but leaving Thomas, the eldest son, with his father in England.

On the 16th of March, 1793, the Right Worshipful William Brimage, subject of this sketch, died. His son Thomas remained in England until he reached the age of twenty-one, and then came to America to join his mother and family in Bertie County. He died unmarried two years after his arrival. By the death of this young man, the descendants, in the male line, of Grand Secretary Brimage became extinct. Through his daughters, however, he left descendants who have taken a high stand in their respective communities. Mrs. Elizabeth West Brimage, wife of William Brimage, died in Bertie County on the 20th of April, 1816. Following is a list of the children of William and Elizabeth Brimage:

1. William Henry Brimage, born March 28, 1774, and died an infant July 8th, in the same year.

2. Thomas West Brimage, born July 15, 1775, and died unmarried in North Carolina on the 8th of April, 1799.

3. Elizabeth Pollock Brimage, born October 21, 1777, and died November 23, 1820. She married Humphrey Bate, and had two sons, Thomas (who died unmarried) and Joseph. The latter was father of the Honorable William Brimage Bate, who fought through the war with Mexico and the war between the States (becoming a Major-General in the Confederate Army), and was later Governor of Tennessee and United States Senator.

4. Mary Frances Brimage (twin sister of Elizabeth), born October 21, 1777, and died October 3, 1851. On September 10, 1795, she married Ephraim Miller, and left descendants. Mr. Miller died September 14, 1826.

5. Harriet Brimage, who was born on the Island of Bermuda, April 12, 1782, and married Benjamin Fessenden.

The above sketch includes what information I have been able to gather concerning the eventful career of the Right Worshipful William Brimage, sometime Grand Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons in the American Colonies.

In the *Charges of a Freemason*, published in 1722, the principle is laid down for the government of the Craft that a Mason is "never to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation." In the eyes of Brother Brimage, we do not doubt, Great Britain was "the nation," and he probably considered Cornelius Harnett and that gentleman's associates the plotters and conspirators against its peace and welfare. To Brother Harnett—particularly as he was a native of the Province—North Carolina was "the nation," and Brimage, with the other Loyalists of the State, were the plotters and conspirators. Hence we may hope that, both as men and Masons, Brimage and Harnett alike found justification in their own hearts. And so to each of our ancient friends and Right Worshipful Brethren we now bid adieu with the solemn words of the burial service of our Order: "Let charity incline us to throw a veil over his foibles, whatever they may have been, and not withhold from his memory the praise that his virtues may have claimed. Suffer the apologies of human nature to plead in his behalf. Perfection on earth has never been attained. The wisest, as well as the best of men, have erred."





## CONCLUSION.

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This brief narrative, by which I have attempted to trace out the beginnings of Freemasonry in North Carolina and Tennessee, has now come to an end. Certain it is that these States and the Nation in general have profited by the standard of citizenship which the Order has set.

Much may be known of some of the historic names I have herein mentioned—the great ones of the world, including Peers of the Realm in England, together with Governors, Generals, Jurists and the like in America—but immeasurably the best work of Masonry has for the most part been quietly done by less famous members of the fraternity whose labors are forgotten on earth when they go down to the grave. Yet this latter class, who have visited the fatherless and widows in their affliction and kept themselves unspotted from the world, will little grieve that their deeds have perished from the memory of man, when they are greeted in the Grand Lodge above with the welcome words: “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.”

And now for the future it can only be said that while members of the Craft hold to the principles transmitted to them by the Masons of ancient times, our Mother Grand Lodge will ever find favor with God and honor among men. So mote it be, now, from henceforth, and forevermore!

“In spite of rock, and tempest’s roar,  
In spite of false lights on the shore,  
Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea!  
Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,  
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,  
Our faith triumphant o’er our fears,  
Are all with thee—are all with thee.”





# GRAND OFFICERS.\*

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LIST OF SIX PRINCIPAL OFFICERS CHOSEN AT EACH SUCCESSIVE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA FROM ITS REORGANIZATION IN 1787 TILL 1906, WITH DATES OF SERVICE.

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DECEMBER 11, 1787—NOVEMBER 18, 1788.

Samuel Johnston, Grand Master; Richard Caswell, Deputy Grand Master; Richard Ellis, Senior Grand Warden; Michael Payne, Junior Grand Warden; Abner Neale, Grand Treasurer; James Glasgow, Grand Secretary.

NOVEMBER 18, 1788—NOVEMBER 21, 1789.

Richard Caswell, Grand Master†; Michael Payne, Deputy Grand Master; James Glasgow, Senior Grand Warden; Silas White Arnett, Junior Grand Warden; Stephen Cabarrus, Grand Treasurer; William Johnston Dawson, Grand Secretary.

NOVEMBER 21, 1789—NOVEMBER 17, 1790.

Samuel Johnston, Grand Master; James Glasgow, Deputy Grand Master; Silas White Arnett, Senior Grand Warden; Lunsford Long, Junior Grand Warden; Stephen Cabarrus, Grand Treasurer; William Johnston Dawson, Grand Secretary.

NOVEMBER 17, 1790—DECEMBER 22, 1791.

Samuel Johnston, Grand Master; James Glasgow, Deputy Grand Master; Stephen Cabarrus, Senior Grand Warden; Isaac Gulon, Junior Grand Warden; Frederick Hargett, Grand Treasurer; Matthias Handy, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 22, 1791—DECEMBER 14, 1792.

Samuel Johnston, Grand Master; James Glasgow, Deputy Grand Master; Stephen Cabarrus, Senior Grand Warden; Lunsford Long,

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\*This compilation is partly made from lists in the Grand Lodge Proceedings of 1845, 1855, 1860 and 1895.

†Caswell died November 10, 1789, just before his term as Grand Master expired.

Junior Grand Warden; Frederick Hargett, Grand Treasurer; Matthias Handy, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 14, 1792—DECEMBER 23, 1793.

William Richardson Davie, Grand Master; James Glasgow, Deputy Grand Master; Lunsford Long, Senior Grand Warden; John Macon, Junior Grand Warden; Frederick Hargett, Grand Treasurer; James Ellis, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 23, 1793—DECEMBER 3, 1794.

William Richardson Davie, Grand Master; James Glasgow, Deputy Grand Master; John Macon, Senior Grand Warden; John Louis Taylor, Junior Grand Warden; Frederick Hargett, Grand Treasurer; Richard W. Freear, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 3, 1794—DECEMBER 6, 1795.

William Richardson Davie, Grand Master; James Glasgow, Deputy Grand Master; John Louis Taylor, Senior Grand Warden; John Ingles, Junior Grand Warden; Walter Alvis, Grand Treasurer; Richard W. Freear, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 6, 1795—DECEMBER 3, 1796.

William Richardson Davie, Grand Master; James Glasgow, Deputy Grand Master; John Louis Taylor, Senior Grand Warden; Henry Hill, Junior Grand Warden; John Macon, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 3, 1796—DECEMBER 10, 1797.

William Richardson Davie, Grand Master; James Glasgow, Deputy Grand Master; John Louis Taylor, Senior Grand Warden; Montfort Stokes, Junior Grand Warden; Richard W. Freear, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 10, 1797—DECEMBER 16, 1798.

William Richardson Davie, Grand Master; James Glasgow, Deputy Grand Master; John Louis Taylor, Senior Grand Warden; Montfort Stokes, Junior Grand Warden; Richard W. Freear, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 16, 1798—DECEMBER 4, 1799.

William Richardson Davie, Grand Master; John Haywood, Deputy Grand Master; Montfort Stokes, Senior Grand Warden; David Cald-

well, Junior Grand Warden; Henry Potter, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 4, 1799—DECEMBER 3, 1800.

William Polk, Grand Master; John Louis Taylor, Deputy Grand Master; Montfort Stokes, Senior Grand Warden; Waightstill Avery, Junior Grand Warden; Henry Potter, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 3, 1800—DECEMBER 11, 1801.

William Polk, Grand Master; John Louis Taylor, Deputy Grand Master; Montfort Stokes, Senior Grand Warden; John Winslow, Junior Grand Warden; Henry Potter, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 11, 1801—DECEMBER 12, 1802.

William Polk, Grand Master; John Louis Taylor, Deputy Grand Master; Montfort Stokes, Senior Grand Warden; William Duffy, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 12, 1802—DECEMBER 11, 1803.

John Louis Taylor, Grand Master; Montfort Stokes, Deputy Grand Master; John Hall, Senior Grand Warden; Nathaniel Alexander, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 11, 1803—DECEMBER 13, 1804.

John Louis Taylor, Grand Master; Montfort Stokes, Deputy Grand Master; John Hall, Senior Grand Warden; William Duffy, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 13, 1804—DECEMBER 12, 1805.

John Louis Taylor, Grand Master; Montfort Stokes, Deputy Grand Master; John Hall, Senior Grand Warden; Robert Cochran, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

DECEMBER 12, 1805—DECEMBER 5, 1806.

John Hall, Grand Master; Montfort Stokes, Deputy Grand Master; Robert Cochran, Senior Grand Warden; William Duffy, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 5, 1806—NOVEMBER 28, 1807.

John Hall, Grand Master; Montfort Stokes, Deputy Grand Master; Robert Cochran, Senior Grand Warden; William Duffy, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

## NOVEMBER 28, 1807—DECEMBER 16, 1808.

John Hall, Grand Master; Montfort Stokes, Deputy Grand Master; Benjamin Smith, Senior Grand Warden; George Lee Davidson, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Robert Williams, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 16, 1808—DECEMBER 11, 1809.

Benjamin Smith, Grand Master; Robert Williams, Deputy Grand Master; George Lee Davidson, Senior Grand Warden; Andrew Caldwell, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Thomas Lanier Williams, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 11, 1809—DECEMBER 1, 1810.

Benjamin Smith, Grand Master; Robert Williams, Deputy Grand Master; Montfort Stokes, Senior Grand Warden; Calvin Jones, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Thomas Lanier Williams, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 1, 1810—NOVEMBER 29, 1811.

Benjamin Smith, Grand Master; Robert Williams, Deputy Grand Master; Calvin Jones, Senior Grand Warden; George Lee Davidson, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Thomas Lanier Williams, Grand Secretary.

## NOVEMBER 29, 1811—DECEMBER 5, 1812.

Robert Williams, Grand Master; Jeremiah Slade, Deputy Grand Master; Calvin Jones, Senior Grand Warden; George Lee Davidson, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Alexander Lucas, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 5, 1812—DECEMBER 11, 1813.

Robert Williams, Grand Master; Jeremiah Slade, Deputy Grand Master; Calvin Jones, Senior Grand Warden; William Miller, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Alexander Lucas, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 11, 1813—NOVEMBER 26, 1814.

Robert Williams, Grand Master; Jeremiah Slade, Deputy Grand Master; Calvin Jones, Senior Grand Warden; William Miller, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Alexander Lucas, Grand Secretary.

## NOVEMBER 26, 1814—DECEMBER 18, 1815.

John Louis Taylor, Grand Master; Jeremiah Slade, Deputy Grand Master; Calvin Jones, Senior Grand Warden; William Miller, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Alexander Lucas, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 18, 1815—DECEMBER 14, 1816.

John Louis Taylor, Grand Master; ———, Deputy Grand Master; Calvin Jones, Senior Grand Warden; William Miller, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Alexander Lucas, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 14, 1816—DECEMBER 7, 1817.

John Louis Taylor, Grand Master; Kemp Plummer, Deputy Grand Master; Calvin Jones, Senior Grand Warden; William Miller, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Alexander Lucas, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 8, 1817—DECEMBER 19, 1818.

Calvin Jones, Grand Master; John Winslow, Deputy Grand Master; James Iredell, Senior Grand Warden; Simmons Jones Baker, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Alexander Lucas, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 19, 1818—DECEMBER 3, 1819.

Calvin Jones, Grand Master; John Winslow, Deputy Grand Master; Louis Dicken Wilson, Senior Grand Warden; Leonard Henderson, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Alexander Lucas, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1819—DECEMBER 16, 1820.

Calvin Jones, Grand Master; James Iredell, Deputy Grand Master; Louis Dicken Wilson, Senior Grand Warden; Leonard Henderson, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Alexander Lucas, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 16, 1820—DECEMBER 3, 1821.

John Adams Cameron, Grand Master; Frederick Nash, Deputy Grand Master; Louis Dicken Wilson, Senior Grand Warden; John C. Ehringhaus, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Bazaleel Gillett, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1821—DECEMBER 4, 1822.

John Adams Cameron, Grand Master; ———, Deputy Grand Master; James Strudwick Smith, Senior Grand Warden; Joseph H. Bryan, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Benjamin A. Barham, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 4, 1822—DECEMBER 15, 1823.

James Strudwick Smith, Grand Master; James Iredell, Deputy Grand Master; Joseph H. Bryan, Senior Grand Warden; Richard Dobbs, Spaight, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Benjamin A. Barham, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 15, 1823—DECEMBER 23, 1824.

Robert Strange, Grand Master; Francis Lister Hawks, Deputy Grand Master; Thomas Clancy, Senior Grand Warden; Bazaleel Gillett, Junior Grand Warden; William Boylan, Grand Treasurer; Alexander J. Lawrence, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 23, 1824—DECEMBER 6, 1825.

Robert Strange, Grand Master; Francis Lister Hawks, Deputy Grand Master; Thomas A. Pasteur, Senior Grand Warden; Bazaleel Gillett, Junior Grand Warden; Benjamin A. Barham, Grand Treasurer; Alexander J. Lawrence, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 6, 1825—DECEMBER 19, 1826.

Hutchins Gordon Burton, Grand Master; Francis Lister Hawks, Deputy Grand Master; George E. Spruill, Senior Grand Warden; Louis Dicken Wilson, Junior Grand Warden; Benjamin A. Barham, Grand Treasurer; Alexander J. Lawrence, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 19, 1826—DECEMBER 6, 1827.

Hutchins Gordon Burton, Grand Master; Francis Lister Hawks, Deputy Grand Master; George E. Spruill, Senior Grand Warden; Louis Dicken Wilson, Junior Grand Warden; Benjamin A. Barham, Grand Treasurer; Alexander J. Lawrence, Grand Secretary.



## DECEMBER 6, 1827—DECEMBER 10, 1828.

Louis Dicken Wilson, Grand Master; John E. Lewis, Deputy Grand Master; George E. Spruill, Senior Grand Warden; Jesse Speight, Junior Grand Warden; Benjamin A. Barham, Grand Treasurer; Alexander J. Lawrence, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 10, 1828—DECEMBER 8, 1829.

Lewis Dicken Wilson, Grand Master; John Owen, Deputy Grand Master; James Grant, Senior Grand Warden; Samuel F. Patterson, Junior Grand Warden; Benjamin A. Barham, Grand Treasurer; John C. Stedman, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 8, 1829—DECEMBER 14, 1830.

Louis Dicken Wilson, Grand Master; John Owen, Deputy Grand Master; James Grant, Senior Grand Warden; Samuel F. Patterson, Junior Grand Warden; Benjamin A. Barham, Grand Treasurer; John C. Stedman, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 14, 1830—DECEMBER 7, 1831.

Richard Dobbs Spaight, Grand Master; Samuel F. Patterson, Deputy Grand Master; George Blair, Senior Grand Warden; John Hill Wheeler, Junior Grand Warden; Benjamin A. Barham, Grand Treasurer; John C. Stedman, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1831—DECEMBER 17, 1832.

Richard Dobbs Spaight, Grand Master; Samuel F. Patterson, Deputy Grand Master; Rufus Haywood, Senior Grand Warden; Daniel Coleman, Junior Grand Warden; Dirk Lindeman, Grand Treasurer; Charles D. Lehman, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 17, 1832—DECEMBER 11, 1833.

Simmons Jones Baker, Grand Master; William Davidson, Deputy Grand Master; Gray Little, Senior Grand Warden; John G. Marshall, Junior Grand Warden; Dirk Lindeman, Grand Treasurer; Thomas J. Lemay, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 11, 1833—DECEMBER 3, 1834.

Samuel F. Patterson, Grand Master; David W. Stone, Deputy Grand Master; Daniel Coleman, Senior Grand Warden; Edmund B. Freeman, Junior Grand Warden; Dirk Lindeman, Grand Treasurer; John J. Christophers, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1834—DECEMBER 7, 1835.

Samuel F. Patterson, Grand Master; David W. Stone, Deputy Grand Master; Daniel Coleman, Senior Grand Warden; John G. Marshall, Junior Grand Warden; Dirk Lindeman, Grand Treasurer; John J. Christophers, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1835—DECEMBER 14, 1836.

Lewis H. Marsteller, Grand Master; David W. Stone, Deputy Grand Master; Daniel Coleman, Senior Grand Warden; Edmund B. Freeman, Junior Grand Warden; Green W. Ligon, Grand Treasurer; John J. Christophers, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 14, 1836—DECEMBER 25, 1837.

Lewis H. Marsteller, Grand Master; David W. Stone, Deputy Grand Master; Henry Blount, Senior Grand Warden; James Maclin, Junior Grand Warden; Green W. Ligon, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 25, 1837—DECEMBER 7, 1838.

David W. Stone, Grand Master; Thomas L. B. Gregory, Deputy Grand Master; William W. Cherry, Senior Grand Warden; William B. Dunn, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1838—DECEMBER 3, 1839.

David W. Stone, Grand Master; Kenneth Rayner, Deputy Grand Master; William W. Cherry, Senior Grand Warden; Duncan G. McRae, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1839—DECEMBER 8, 1840.

David W. Stone, Grand Master; William B. Dunn, Deputy Grand Master; John G. Marshall, Senior Grand Warden; Daniel Sanford Crenshaw, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 8, 1840—DECEMBER 7, 1841.

Simmons Jones Baker, Grand Master; William S. Baker, Deputy Grand Master; Daniel Sanford Crenshaw, Senior Grand Warden; Kader Biggs, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William A. Harrison, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1841—DECEMBER 8, 1842.

Daniel Sanford Crenshaw, Grand Master; Thomas Loring, Deputy Grand Master; Thomas E. Pender, Senior Grand Warden; Davis Young, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William A. Harrison, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 8, 1842—DECEMBER 7, 1843.

John Hill Wheeler, Grand Master; Jonathan H. Jacocks, Deputy Grand Master; Thomas E. Pender, Senior Grand Warden; Davis Young, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William A. Harrison, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1843—DECEMBER 7, 1844.

John Hill Wheeler, Grand Master; David Lowry Swain, Deputy Grand Master; Phineas W. Fanning, Senior Grand Warden; William P. Taylor, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William A. Harrison, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1844—DECEMBER 4, 1845.

Phineas W. Fanning, Grand Master; David W. Stone, Deputy Grand Master; Thomas S. Clark, Senior Grand Warden; Arthur S. Mooring, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 4, 1845—DECEMBER 10, 1846.

Phineas W. Fanning, Grand Master; Thomas Loring, Deputy Grand Master; Wiley W. Johnson, Senior Grand Warden; Talcott Burr, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 10, 1846—DECEMBER 8, 1847.

Phineas W. Fanning, Grand Master; William Gott, Deputy Grand Master; John H. Drake, Senior Grand Warden; Peter Adams, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchins, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 8, 1847—DECEMBER 7, 1848.

William F. Collins, Grand Master; Clement H. Jordan, Deputy Grand Master; Talcott Burr, Senior Grand Warden; William H. Mead, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1848—DECEMBER 6, 1849.

William F. Collins, Grand Master; Clement H. Jordan, Deputy Grand Master; John H. Drake, Senior Grand Warden; Job Hiatt, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 6, 1849—DECEMBER 3, 1850.

William F. Collins, Grand Master; Clement H. Jordan, Deputy Grand Master; William G. Hill, Senior Grand Warden; Job Hiatt, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1850—DECEMBER 3, 1851.

Alonzo T. Jerkins, Grand Master; Cyrus P. Mendenhall, Deputy Grand Master; Luke Blackmer, Senior Grand Warden; James E. Allen, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1851—DECEMBER 7, 1852.

Alonzo T. Jerkins, Grand Master; Cyrus P. Mendenhall, Deputy Grand Master; Luke Blackmer, Senior Grand Warden; James E. Allen, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1852—DECEMBER 8, 1853.

Alonzo T. Jerkins, Grand Master; Cyrus P. Mendenhall, Deputy Grand Master; Luke Blackmer, Senior Grand Warden; William P. Taylor, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 8, 1853—DECEMBER 7, 1854.

Clement H. Jordan, Grand Master; William P. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master; Peter Adams, Senior Grand Warden; James H. Moore, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1854—DECEMBER 6, 1855.

Clement H. Jordan, Grand Master; William P. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master; William K. Blake, Senior Grand Warden; Joseph Green, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 6, 1855—DECEMBER 4, 1856.

Pleasant A. Holt, Grand Master; William P. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master; William K. Blake, Senior Grand Warden; Joseph Green, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 4, 1856—DECEMBER 7, 1857.

Pleasant A. Holt, Grand Master; Alfred Martin, Deputy Grand Master; James T. Alexander, Senior Grand Warden; F. M. Cox, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1857—DECEMBER 6, 1858.

Alfred Martin, Grand Master; Lewis S. Williams, Deputy Grand Master; James T. Alexander, Senior Grand Warden; F. M. Cox, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 6, 1858—DECEMBER 5, 1859.

Alfred Martin, Grand Master; Lewis S. Williams, Deputy Grand Master; Henry C. Lucas, Senior Grand Warden; Daniel Coleman, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 5, 1859—DECEMBER 3, 1860.

Lewis S. Williams, Grand Master; Eli W. Ward, Deputy Grand Master; Henry C. Lucas, Senior Grand Warden; Eli F. Watson, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1860—DECEMBER 3, 1861.

Lewis S. Williams, Grand Master; Eli W. Ward, Deputy Grand Master; James E. Allen, Senior Grand Warden; Charles C. Clark, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1861—DECEMBER 3, 1862.

William G. Hill, Grand Master; Eli F. Watson, Deputy Grand Master; Daniel Coleman, Senior Grand Warden; Rufus K. Speed, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1862—DECEMBER 8, 1863.

Eli F. Watson, Grand Master; Edwin Godwin Reade, Deputy Grand Master; John McCormick, Senior Grand Warden; Rufus K. Speed, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 8, 1863—DECEMBER 7, 1864.

Eli F. Watson, Grand Master; Edwin Godwin Reade, Deputy Grand Master; John McCormick, Senior Grand Warden; Robert W. Best, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1864—DECEMBER 5, 1865.

John McCormick, Grand Master; Eugene Grissom, Deputy Grand Master; Robert W. Best, Senior Grand Warden; David Henry Stephenson, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 5, 1865—DECEMBER 7, 1866.

Edwin Godwin Reade, Grand Master; John M. Happoldt, Deputy Grand Master; Robert W. Best, Senior Grand Warden; John Nichols, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1866—DECEMBER 3, 1867.

Edwin Godwin Reade, Grand Master; Robert W. Best, Deputy Grand Master; William Lander, Senior Grand Warden; John Nichols, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1867—DECEMBER 7, 1868.

Robert W. Best, Grand Master; James G. Ramsay, Deputy Grand Master; Robert B. Vance, Senior Grand Warden; Thomas M. Gardner, Junior Grand Warden; Celadon W. D. Hutchings, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1868—DECEMBER 7, 1869.

Robert B. Vance, Grand Master; Ellis Malone, Deputy Grand Master; Joseph B. Batchelor, Senior Grand Warden; Samuel H. Rountree, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1869—DECEMBER 6, 1870.

Robert B. Vance, Grand Master; Ellis Malone, Deputy Grand Master; John Nichols, Senior Grand Warden; Samuel H. Rountree, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 6, 1870—DECEMBER 5, 1871.

Charles C. Clark, Grand Master; Joseph B. Batchelor, Deputy Grand Master; John Nichols, Senior Grand Warden; Samuel H. Rountree, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 5, 1871—DECEMBER 3, 1872.

Charles C. Clark, Grand Master; Joseph B. Batchelor, Deputy Grand Master; John Nichols, Senior Grand Warden; Clinton A. Cilley, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1872—DECEMBER 2, 1873.

John Nichols, Grand Master; Thomas M. Gardner, Deputy Grand Master; Clinton A. Cilley, Senior Grand Warden; Robert W. Hardie, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 2, 1873—DECEMBER 7, 1874.

John Nichols, Grand Master; Thomas M. Gardner, Deputy Grand Master; Clinton A. Cilley, Senior Grand Warden; Robert W. Hardie, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1874—DECEMBER 7, 1875.

George W. Blount, Grand Master; Clinton A. Cilley, Deputy Grand Master; Samuel C. Shelton, Senior Grand Warden; Horace H. Munson, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1875—DECEMBER 6, 1876.

George W. Blount, Grand Master; Eugene Grisson, Deputy Grand Master; Horace H. Munson, Senior Grand Warden; Robert V. Blackstock, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 6, 1876—DECEMBER 5, 1877.

Horace H. Munson, Grand Master; Clinton A. Cilley, Deputy Grand Master; Robert W. Hardie, Senior Grand Warden; James C. L. Gudger, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 5, 1877—DECEMBER 4, 1878.

Horace H. Munson, Grand Master; Thomas S. Kenan, Deputy Grand Master; Robert W. Hardie, Senior Grand Warden; James C. L. Gudger, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 4, 1878—DECEMBER 3, 1879.

William R. Cox, Grand Master; James C. L. Gudger, Deputy Grand Master; Charles W. Alexander, Senior Grand Warden; Henry F. Grainger, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 3, 1879—DECEMBER 8, 1880.

William R. Cox, Grand Master; James C. L. Gudger, Deputy Grand Master; Charles W. Alexander, Senior Grand Warden; Henry F. Grainger, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 8, 1880—DECEMBER 7, 1881.

Henry F. Grainger, Grand Master; James W. Reid, Deputy Grand Master; Robert Bingham, Senior Grand Warden; Charles H. Robinson, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 7, 1881—DECEMBER 6, 1882.

Henry F. Grainger, Grand Master; James W. Reid, Deputy Grand Master; Robert Bingham, Senior Grand Warden; Charles H. Robinson, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## DECEMBER 6, 1882—JANUARY 9, 1884.

Robert Bingham, Grand Master; Fabius H. Busbee, Deputy Grand Master; Charles H. Robinson, Senior Grand Warden; William T. Kennedy, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.



## JANUARY 9, 1884—JANUARY 14, 1885.

Robert Bingham, Grand Master; Fabius H. Busbee, Deputy Grand Master; Charles H. Robinson, Senior Grand Warden; Samuel H. Smith, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 14, 1885—JANUARY 13, 1886.

Fabius H. Busbee, Grand Master; Charles H. Robinson, Deputy Grand Master; Samuel H. Smith, Senior Grand Warden; Hezekiah A. Gudger, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 13, 1886—JANUARY 12, 1887.

Fabius H. Busbee, Grand Master; Charles H. Robinson, Deputy Grand Master; Samuel H. Smith, Senior Grand Warden; Hezekiah A. Gudger, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 12, 1887—JANUARY 11, 1888.

Charles H. Robinson, Grand Master; Samuel H. Smith, Deputy Grand Master; Hezekiah A. Gudger, Senior Grand Warden; John W. Cotten, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 11, 1888—JANUARY 9, 1889.

Charles H. Robinson, Grand Master; Samuel H. Smith, Deputy Grand Master; Hezekiah A. Gudger, Senior Grand Warden; John W. Cotten, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 9, 1889—JANUARY 15, 1890.

Samuel H. Smith, Grand Master; Hezekiah A. Gudger, Deputy Grand Master; John W. Cotten, Senior Grand Warden; Francis M. Moye, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 15, 1890—JANUARY 14, 1891.

Samuel H. Smith, Grand Master; Hezekiah A. Gudger, Deputy Grand Master; John W. Cotten, Senior Grand Warden; Francis M. Moye, Junior Grand Warden; William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 14, 1891—JANUARY 13, 1892.

Hezekiah A. Gudger, Grand Master; John W. Cotten, Deputy Grand Master; Francis M. Moye, Senior Grand Warden; Richard J. Noble, Junior Grand Warden; Darius S. Waitt, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 13, 1892—JANUARY 11, 1893.

Hezekiah A. Gudger, Grand Master; John W. Cotten, Deputy Grand Master; Francis M. Moye, Senior Grand Warden; Richard J. Noble, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer; Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary.\*

## JANUARY 11, 1893—JANUARY 3, 1894.

John W. Cotten, Grand Master; Francis M. Moye, Deputy Grand Master; Richard J. Noble, Senior Grand Warden; Walter E. Moore, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer; William H. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 3, 1894—JANUARY 9, 1895.

John W. Cotten, Grand Master; Francis M. Moye, Deputy Grand Master; Richard J. Noble, Senior Grand Warden; Walter E. Moore, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer; William H. Bain, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 9, 1895—JANUARY 16, 1896.

Francis M. Moye, Grand Master; Richard J. Noble, Deputy Grand Master; Walter E. Moore, Senior Grand Warden; James A. Leach, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer; John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 16, 1896—JANUARY 14, 1897.

Francis M. Moye, Grand Master; William H. Summerell, Deputy Grand Master; Walter E. Moore, Senior Grand Warden; Beverly S. Royster, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer; John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.

## JANUARY 14, 1897—JANUARY 13, 1898.

Walter E. Moore, Grand Master; Richard J. Noble, Deputy Grand Master; Beverly S. Royster, Senior Grand Warden; Henry Irwin

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\* Upon the death of Brother D. W. Bain, on November 16, 1892, Brother Gustav Rosenthal filled his unexpired term.

Clark, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer;  
John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.

JANUARY 13, 1898—JANUARY 12, 1899.

Walter E. Moore, Grand Master; Richard J. Noble, Deputy Grand Master; Beverly S. Royster, Senior Grand Warden; Henry Irwin Clark, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer; John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.

JANUARY 12, 1899—JANUARY 12, 1900.

Richard J. Noble, Grand Master; Beverly S. Royster, Deputy Grand Master; Henry Irwin Clark, Senior Grand Warden; Walter S. Liddell, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer; John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.

JANUARY 12, 1900—JANUARY 11, 1901.

Beverly S. Royster, Grand Master; Henry Irwin Clark, Deputy Grand Master; Walter S. Liddell, Senior Grand Warden; Francis D. Winston, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer; John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.

JANUARY 11, 1901—JANUARY 16, 1902.

Beverly S. Royster, Grand Master; Henry Irwin Clark, Deputy Grand Master; Walter S. Liddell, Senior Grand Warden; Francis D. Winston, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer; John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.

January 16, 1902—JANUARY 15, 1903.

Henry Irwin Clark, Grand Master; Walter S. Liddell, Deputy Grand Master; Francis D. Winston, Senior Grand Warden; Samuel M. Gattis, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer; John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.

JANUARY 15, 1903—JANUARY 14, 1904.

Henry Irwin Clark, Grand Master; Walter S. Liddell, Deputy Grand Master; Francis D. Winston, Senior Grand Warden; Samuel M. Gattis, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer; John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.

JANUARY 14, 1904—JANUARY 12, 1905.

Walter S. Liddell, Grand Master; Francis D. Winston, Deputy Grand Master; Samuel M. Gattis, Senior Grand Warden; Richard N.

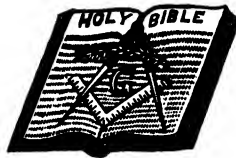
Hackett, Junior Grand Warden; William Simpson, Grand Treasurer;  
John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.

JANUARY 12, 1905—JANUARY 11, 1906.

Walter S. Liddell, Grand Master; Francis D. Winston, Deputy  
Grand Master; Samuel M. Gattis, Senior Grand Warden, Richard  
N. Hackett, Junior Grand Warden; Leo D. Heartt, Grand Treasurer;  
John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.

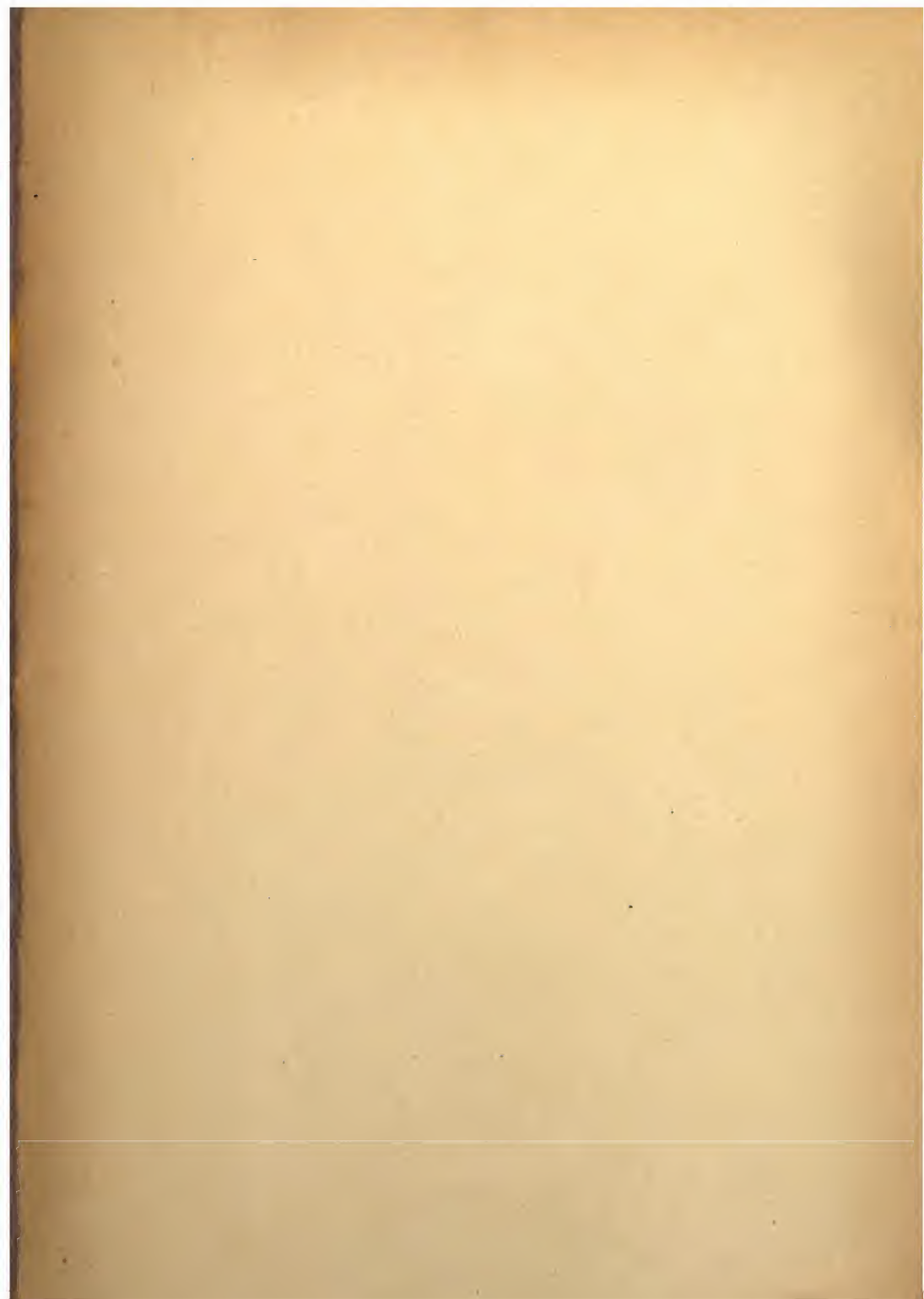
JANUARY 11, 1906—JANUARY 10, 1907.

Francis D. Winston, Grand Master; Samuel M. Gattis, Deputy  
Grand Master; Richard N. Hackett, Senior Grand Warden; William  
B. McKoy, Junior Grand Warden; Leo D. Heartt, Grand Treasurer;  
John C. Drewry, Grand Secretary.













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